Looking through Galileo's telescope: does God believe in science?





Watching drongos in Gambia

Mack McLarty: from kindergarten to White House



FINANCIAL TIMES

'Europe's Business Newspaper

Croatians cross

UN truce line to

Croatian troops crossed a United Nations truce line in Serbian-held Krajina yesterday and launched

an offensive in one of four Croatian peacekeeping zones. Serbs later seized heavy weapons from UN safekeeping depots to reinforce their positions.

The fighting, which also flared in Bosnia, came when prospects for the Bosnian peace talks were rising after Bosnia's Serb parliament accepted a constitutional framework. Page 2

US keeps up the pressure: A US warplane attacked an Iraqi anti-aircraft missile battery, reinforcing president Clinton's vow to maintain

Sterling under pressure against D-Mark

Growing gloom about Britain's economic recovery

prospects put sterling under fresh pressure against the D-Mark. It closed 1½ pfennigs lowers on the day at DM2.44, more than 6 pfennigs below last

Friday's finish. In London, shares rose on hopes

ended 7.9 points higher on the day at 2,781.2. Page

of an interest rate cut and the FT-SE 100 Index

22; Spain cuts rate, Page 2; Currencies, Page

Clinton's first political defeat: Zoe Baird, US president Bill Clinton's nominee for attorney

general, withdrew her nomination amid senate

criticism that she employed illegal immigrants.

Democrat leader Poul Nyrup Rasmussen won formal approval from four parties to form a Danish

Salvage experts boarded the blazing tanker Maersk Navigator, which had already left a two-

mile oil slick near the entrance to the Malacca Strait off Sumatra. The tanker was carrying nearly 2m barrels of crude. Page 3

manufacturer, boosted fourth-quarter revenue

to \$1.99bn (£1.3bn) against \$1.75bn a year earlier.

Palestinian deportees: Lebanon agreed to a British offer to airlift some of the Palestinian

error to return. In the occupied Gaza Strip, Israeli troops shot and wounded an eight-year-old boy

Calvet gives up: Jacques Calvet, head of French

car maker Peugeot Citroen, is giving up his Perot-

style campaign for the French presidency. He said he launched his bid to stimulate debate and

Disease strikes in Sudan: Medical workers

say 60,000 people in southern Sudan have been killed by Kala-azar, a wasting disease. The sufferers were cut off from medical help by a civil war

Baby sexing clinic: Controversy erupted after the opening in London of the first British clinic offering couples the chance to choose the

Safe in Florida: Missing prostitutes' rights campaigner Lindi St Clair has been found safe

in Florida, UK police said. They had been seeking

her in Britain since she disappeared after threaten-

ing to reveal details of a file on influential clients.

The search is estimated to have cost more than

Hungary's prime minister, vowed not to compro-

mise with rebellious right-wingers who are threat-

Hungarian PM's pledge: Jozsef Antall,

ening the unity of his Hungarian Democratic

sex of their babies. The service is being investigated

deportees to Israel. The Israelis have said they

will allow those ill and those they deported in

Texas Instruments, the US chip and electronics

Page 22; The ways of Washington, Page 3

Danish government: Denmark's Social

11; Markets, Weekend FT, Page II

government. Page 2

and 17 other people.

was now withdrawing.

by the Department of Health.

Forum party. Page 2

Sterling

Against the DM (DM/E)

Washington's tough policy towards Baghdad.

Iraq denied it had a missile site in the area.

Hourty movements

2,720 18 Jan'93 22

2,800

attack Serbs

WEEKEND JANUARY 23/JANUARY 24 1993

Economist editor appointed as deputy governor

Eddie George to be governor of Bank of England

By Robert Peston, Philip Stephens and John Gapper

MR EDDIE GEORGE was yesterday appointed as the new governor of the Bank of

The announcement of his appointment as head of the UK central bank, made by the prime minister's office, ends several months of speculation about the likely successor to the present governor, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, who has held the post since 1983 and retires in

The new deputy governor is Mr Rupert Pennant-Rea, the editor of The Economist magazine.

Mr George said last night that

he was delighted that the government for the first time had given the Bank a clear mandate to support the government in the light against inflation.

Mr George, the current deputy governor, will be only the second governor drawn from the ranks of the Bank's own staff. Aged 54, he joined the Bank in 1962 after leaving Cambridge University.

His appointment to one of the most powerful UK public sector positions - and the best paid public sector job - had been widely predicted.

■ The determined insider ■ Profile of new deputy

However the choice of Mr Pennant-Rea, 45, as deputy governor was completely unexpected.

Mr Pennant-Rea worked at the Bank between 1973 and 1977. He is a close friend of Mrs Sarah Hogg, the head of the Downing Street policy unit or think tank. Mr George said of Mr Pennant-Rea's appointment that he "recognised the case for bringing

fresh air into the Bank". Mr George will be in charge of advising the government on its inflation policy and fund-raising in the UK debt markets. He will also be the leading spokesman for the City's interests both domestically and internationally and will have overall responsibil-

ity for supervising UK banks.
The choice of Mr George was made by Mr John Major, although Mr Leigh-Pemberton recommended his selection. The other leading candidate was Sir David Scholey, chairman of the merchant bank, SG Warburg. Downing Street signalled that

tise and his easy relationship with Mr Major had been key factors in his appointment.

One of Mr George's most nor has been to advise the Treasury on how to intervene in currency markets. However, the prime minister had not blamed him for sterling's forced withdrawal from the European exchange rate mechanism last

September.
Mr George, who will formally take over in June, is generally regarded as a hawk on inflation. He had profound doubts about the wisdom of joining the ERM.

In the City of London, his appointment was greeted with a positive reaction. Mr Brian Pit-

Bank, said: "He is a real professional. We have a high opinion of The appointment was also welcomed by European central bankers and government officials as a sign that the Bank of England's

man, chief executive of Lloyds

safe pair of hands. One central banker in continental Europe said of the decision by the UK government: "They're setting a very high store by real professionalism."



stewardship would pass into a

Government says pit closure plan vindicated

and David Owen

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday claimed vindication for its decision last October to close 31 coal mines after independent reports pointed to an unprecedented decline in the market and broadly backed the selection of pits chosen for closure.

However, the likelihood that the government will change its mind on some of the pits was reinforced by the conclusion of one of the reports, by John T Boyd, a US mining consultancy, appeared reasonable. Among the unless there was a market for than deep mine British coal, and that 13 could be profitable if 21 subsequently granted a stay of coal.

working practices. One of the 31. Point of Ayr, in north Wales, seems almost certain to remain open after Boyd said its "room and pillar" mining system should be applied at other collieries. "Priority should be given to continuation of this plt to demonstrate the feasibility and economics of the system."

Boyd said British Coal's strategy for selecting the 31 pits originally earmarked to close

consultancy ranked Maltby and Hatfield the most economic, and Westoe and Easington the least

Mr Tim Eggar, energy minister.

said the reports broadly confirmed the assessments which led to the original decision in October to close the pits. The government would con-

sider the reports in its white paper on energy but he added that no pit would be viable

and industry minister, questioned the value of the reports and said they made it hard to believe that ministers were carrying out a searching review of energy policy. Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said they added nothing new.

He said the reports failed to point out that other forms of energy, such as nuclear power and gas, were more expensive

The report by Caminus Energy. "tells us nothing more than that on present policies coal is being shut out from the electricity market. We knew that in October." At Westminster last night there were fears that publication of the documents could provoke a split among members of the

> Continued on Page 22 Background, Page 4

Bankers may not provide Jubilee line funds

By Robert Peston, Banking Editor in London

BANKERS to Canary Wharf, the financially troubled property development, said yesterday there was serious doubt about whether they would provide funds to extend the Jubilee line into east London.

They said there were no firm commitments from them to provide the £400m towards the cost of extending the underground rail line which the government has said is needed from the private sector. Without this contribution, the extension will not be

In November, the administrators to the project said agreement in principle had been reached with 11 banks on the provision of the funds, including an immediate contribution of £98m. As a result, Mr Norman Lamont, the chancellor, earmarked public funds in the Autumn Statement for the government's share in the

But it emerged yesterday that the 11 banks, including Barclays and Lloyds of the UK, have not made a binding agreement to provide the private sector share. They are relying on the European Investment Bank, the European Community lending institution, to provide the bulk of the £98m.
"I am confident that the EIB

will come up with the money, said one banker. However, a banker with close links to the EIB said it had not made any promise to provide the money and there was considerable doubt whether it would do so.

The EIB has already lent £100m to the project. Another £600m has been provided in a main lending facility provided by 11 banks. Four Canadian banks have provided a separate £450m loan.

Canary Wharf is in administration under UK insolvency procedures. Bankers said the project would probably go into liquidation if there was no agreement on funding for the Jubilee line.

Discussions on the Jubilee funds are closely linked to separate negotiations on how to provide an additional £200m needed to complete Canary Wharf's Lex. Page 22 | building in London's docklands.

BR privatisation plans may still change, MacGregor says

By Richard Tomkins, Transport Correspondent

MR JOHN MacGregor, transport secretary, yesterday appeared to leave the door open to significant changes in the UK government's proposals for the privatisation of British Rail

Mr MacGregor, unveiling the detailed plans in the form of the Railways Bill, emphasised the opportunities for parliament to mend the legislation before it won roval assent "The whole point of the parlia-

mentary process of dealing with legislation is to carry out a par-liamentary scrutiny," he said. "So there will be full parliamentary scrutiny in the months to come, and there may well be

The government's plans for breaking up British Rail are threatening to turn into the most controversial privatisation yet. They have come under fire from a broad range of bodies including consumer groups, the public transport lobby, professional institutions, trade unions and

The aim is to split British Rail into two, with one body operating the trains and the other owning the tracks. Freight operations would be sold and the passenger

train operations would be contracted out to the private sector in up to 40 separate franchises, starting in 1994.

Mr MacGregor has already climbed down on one aspect of the privatisation proposals, saying that franchisees will not nec-essarily have to face on-track competition from other operators trying to poach their customers.

But the plans are still drawing strong criticisms about the practicality of separating track ownership from the operation of trains and the possibility that the introduction of track charges could price traffic off the rail-

ways and on to the roads. Yesterday, Mr Brian Wilson, a Labour transport spokesman, claimed the bill would mean fewer services, greater safety risks, more bureaucracy, higher fares, more freight on the roads and heavy job losses.

"Above all, one is struck by the Byzantine complexity of what is being proposed," Mr Wilson said. "The lawyers will love it. Fragmenting the railways means everyone registering with every-one else, and a vast web of agreements and regulatory proce-

Sir Bob Reid, BR chairman, refused either to endorse or to criticise the bill. "It is certainly a

legitimate way of broadening the financial base of the railway. Whether it works or not really depends on who comes forward and runs these franchises," he

Mr MacGregor said the plans would bring better railway services for passenger and freight customers and better value for

money for the taxpayer. Pares would rise no more rapidly than they had under British Rail, he predicted, and closure procedures would remain as stringent as they were now.

Mr MacGregor acknowledged that work was still to be done on some of the details of the proposals. A document on rolling stock leasing would be issued next week, another on the track charging regime would follow next month, and a third on the sale of freight services would come in

"There is no doubt that there are issues to be sorted out. I don't deny that for a second. BR is a

very complex business," he said. When he was challenged on the widespread hostility to the plans, Mr MacGregor said similar criticisms had accompanied earlier privatisations.

"The problems then were overcome, and they will be overcome this time," he said.

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Croatian offensive shatters ceasefire

By Laura Sliber in Belgrade

AN upsurge in fighting in the former Yugoslavia yesterday threatened to scupper the UN peace plan in Croatia and overshadowed the Bosnian peace talks, due to resume in Geneva

Croatian troops launched an offensive in sector south, one of four UN peacekeeping zones held by Serb rebels, and fighting intensified in Bosnia.

UN officials in Zagreb said that Croatian troops had crossed the year-old ceaselire line around the Maslenica bridge into the Serb-occupied Krajina region, the main overland route linking central Croatia with its southern Adriatic coast and around the Zemunik airport, near the port

The offensive comes amid mounting frustration among Croat leaders over their lack of control over about one-third of Croatia, which is held by Serb militia and under nominal UN authority.

They have told us they want to secure the Maslenica bridge area and the area around it because they are

with regard to reconstruction of the vital bridge," Mr Cedric Thornberry, the UN chief of civilian affairs, said in

Yesterday's offensive shattered a relatively stable cease-fire in Croatia and raised fears of a renewal of the Serbo-Croat war. At least 10,000 people were killed in the seven-month conflict in Croatia which erupted in June 1991 when the western republic declared inde-pendence from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia. Backed by the Yugoslav Army, Serbs, who comprised 13 per cent of the

4.7m population, took up arms against Croatian independence. Belgrade Radio said several French peacekeepers were wounded in the fighting at Zemunik airport. The report could not be independently confirmed. They said hundreds of refugees were fleeing artillery and mortar barrages in

Serb commanders in Krajina, the self-proclaimed Serbian state in Croatia, announced a general mobilisation and reminded the Yugoslav Army of its promise to intervene if

Under the UN peace plan, Serb fighters were supposed to hand over their weapons to UN supervision to create demilitarised zones. But a UN official yesterday said: "We have some information that the Serbs have removed heavy artillery from UN-supervised arms depots.

Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic sent a letter of protest to the UN Security Council. "We are now at a turning point - either towards peace or toward total war," he warned.

Meanwhile fighting was reported throughout neighbouring Bosnia-Hercegovina. Sarajevo radio said the old town centre of the besieged Bosnian capital came under heavy shelling by Serb forces from the surrounding hills. Serb forces bombarded Mostar. the Croat-held city in south-west Bosnia, said Croatian radio.

In eastern Croatia, a UN soldier was killed when he stepped on a landmine in Sector East. He was the 24th UN peacekeeper killed since UN troops were deployed last

Geneva peace talks UK-US group reach crucial phase aims at German

Diplomatic Editor

THE RENEWED fighting between Croats, Serbs and Moslems in the former Yugoslavia comes as the Bosnian peace talks appeared to have been given a boost by the Bosnian Serb parliament's acceptance of a constitutional framework for Bosnia.

The negotiations, due to be resumed in Geneva today, are about to deal with the most controversial element of the international mediators' peace plan - the detailed map of the ten provinces into which Bosnia will be divided.

"There are no illusions; the map discussions will be difficult," Mr Fred Eckhard, the mediators' spokesman said yesterday.

As with the negotiations last week on the constitutional principles, the talks will be attended by the top leaders of the rump Yugoslavia, federal President Dobrica Cosic, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and Montenegran President Momir Bulatovic. It was President Milosevic's

constitutional framework.

Anxious not to lose the momentum of the negotiations, the Geneva conference's co-chairmen, Mr Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, will urge an agreement on the map during the current session of the talks. They are prepared to draw out the talks as long as

However, given the deep disagreements over territory which still divide the three ethnic groups, a more realistic prospect is that the negotiations will run into the sand by about Tuesday and will be adjourned for a few days to give an opportunity for further bilateral contacts.

The mediators' plan provides for the creation of an independent, unified state of Bosnia, divided into 10 largely self-governing provinces. But though the Croats have already accepted the provincial map, both the Moslems and Serbs are deeply unhappy with some of the provincial

The Moslems, who accounted intervention, in particular, for more than 40 per cent of

which persuaded the Bosnian
Serbs to accept the conflict began last April, are demanding more land than the approximately 26 per cent which has been allocated to them. The mediators, however, have stressed that the Moslems were mainly city-dwellers and therefore occupied much less land than might have been warranted by the size of their

population. The Serbs, who have been assigned about 43 per cent of the territory of Bosnia, clearly do not want to give up the additional 27 per cent, which they now occupy as the result of their military conquests and policy of "ethnic cleansing." But they might be prepared to do a deal which would at least ensure that their provinces are joined up by land corridors across Croatian terri

At the back of the Bosnian Serbs' minds is that, one day, they will still be able to create an independent Bosnian Serb republic, in spite of the fact that the future constitution of Bosnia-Hercegovina rules out such a solution, unless it is approved by the central

power sector

By Leslie Colitt in Berlin and ivo Dawnay in London

A UK-US consortium of PowerGen and NRG Energy has won an important first round in an ambitious attempt to become an important German coal and electricity pro-

The Treuhand privatisation agency decided yesterday to begin negotiations on selling east Germany's largest brown coal mining company, Mibrag, to the consortium. A rival German energy con-

sortium, led by Rheinbraun and including RWE, PreussenElektra and Bayernwerk, failed to submit a competitive bid, according to the Treuhand. PowerGen's move comes at a politically sensitive time for

the UK government, in the middle of a review on how to reprieve some of British Coal's However, the privatised generator stressed yesterday it

had no plans to import the coal, which would all be used locally. PowerGen and NRG Energy are understood to have bid nearly DM1bn (£412m) to buy mines in the Leipzig area and planned several billion D-Marks in investments.

tons of brown coal last year, expects to sign contracts shortly to supply brown coal to several big power stations planned in Saxony. The company's workforce is to be slashed by 5,500 to 10,590 by the end of this year.

pan plus

The UK-US consortium also aims to become the first foreign company to operate power stations in Germany, breaking the fiercely-protected oligopoly of domestic producers. German electricity rates are among the highest in Europe and Power-Gen and NRG Energy have held out the prospect of producing cheaper electricity. Both the Treuhand and the German Cartel Office have expressed interest in obtaining cheaper rates for German industrial

and household users. The Rheinbraun consortium is also negotiating with the Treuhand to buy the Laubag brown coal company in nearby eastern Brandenburg state, but progress has been slow. The Treuhand hopes to speed the process with its decision to negotiate exclusively with the Anglo-American consortium on

Mibrag's sale is to be concluded by June the Treuhand said. If PowerGen and NRG Energy are unable to sustain their offer, new tenders will be

Mibrag, which produced 36m Jobs top priority for new Danish government

By Hilary Barnes

POLICIES to generate more jobs and reduce Denmark's 11 per cent unemployment rate will be a top priority for the four-party, majority govern-ment which Mr Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, the leader of the Social Democratic Party, will form over the weekend.

The SDP leader yesterday received the consent of the three small centre parties -Radical Liberals, Centre Democrats and Christian People's Party - to form a coalition government on the basis of a policy document hammered out this week: "A programme to engage, enthuse and call on the commitment of the peo-

The new government will have the narrowest possible majority, 90 of the 179 seats in the Folketing, including the votes of two of the four members elected for the Faroe Islands and Greenland

Mr Rasmussen will spend the weekend putting together his cabinet. It is expected that his new government will be ready to be presented to Queen Margrethe on Monday. The three centre parties all

supported the outgoing Conservative-Liberal coalition, which collapsed last week when Prime Minister Poul Schlüter resigned after 10 years in office following criticism over the so-called Tamilgate scandal. Therefore, no radical changes in the policies of the new government are expected.

Mr Rasmussen has also chosen to isolate the left-wing Socialist People's Party (SPP), whose leaders were hoping for a government resting on support from them, the SDP and the Radicals, another majority combination.

"The SDP has made a right turn," said Mr Holger Nielsen, SPP leader.

Low inflation, continued membership of the European Community's exchange rate mechanism, a cautious fiscal policy and a continued "solid" surplus on the current external account are among the basic points in the government's programme. Its headline points are employment, renewal of the welfare state, the environment and improvement in human rights and democracy around the world.

The new government faces a mandatory election in December 1994 at the latest

Defence cuts may undermine Nato, Wörner warns

By Lionel Barber in Brussels

THE Nato alliance's chief mission, the defence of western Europe, risks being undermined by sharp cuts in defence spending by its members, Mr Manfred Wörner, Nato secretary general, said yesterday.

some - perhaps all - alliance members could be tempted to ignore the main defence force by focusing on innovations such as peace-keeping and the creation of a mobile rapid reaction force.

Belgium has announced plans to cut its armed forces by nearly 50 per cent to 45,000 by 1995; the Netherlands aims to cuts the size of its army by more than half to 37,000 by the end of the century. These figures are inflated by the decision to end conscription by 1995 and 1998 respectively.

Other Nato allies - all hardpressed by the recession - are considering deep defence cuts. Germany faces a huge budget deficit because of the costs of unification.

At a news conference in Brussels, Mr Wörner reaffirmed that Nato remained the principal forum on European security questions. The Western European Union - the nascent defence arm of the European Community - was still complementary but subordinate to Nato, he said.

Nato officials are worried that defence cuts in Europe will provoke retaliation in

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Two-track CIS emerges from Minsk conference

By Leyla Boulton in Minsk

THE COMMONWEALTH of Independent States yesterday embarked on a two-tiered future, with only seven of its 10 states agreeing on a charter for closer political and economic integration. Ukraine, Moldova and Turkmenistan refused to sign the long-discussed charter to create a defence alliance, an economic co-ordination committee and an interstate court.

However, all 10 participants at yesterday's summit in the Belorussian capital of Minsk signed a declaration that any state would be free to sign up to the charter in future.

Moreover, an interstate bank, seen as crucial for reviving collapsing interstate trade,

stands up

Antall

against

By Nicholas Denton

in Budapest

ocratic Forum.

far-right

THE FUTURE of Hungary's

conservative government hung

in the balance last night as

Prime Minister Jozsef Antall

gary since voters threw out

Hungary's continuing stabil-

party presidium in internal

saying the far-right endan-

His speech confronted Mr

Istvan Csurka, the extremist

leader whose attacks on Jews.

communists, liberals, journal-

ists and western companies

have capitalised on discontent

over falling living standards,

aroused Forum activists and

thrown Hungarian politics

into turmoil.

Mr Antall had in the inter-

ests of party unity resisted

much pressure from the oppo-

sition and the international

community to move against

launched his explosive mani-

draws a sword against me and

out too: I will not back away,"

The clash within the Forum

time for Mr Antall, who faces

cent in three years, have

proved vastly unpopular. Sup-

cent in a recent poll.

festo last August.

he said yesterday.

elections last night.

was also endorsed by all 10. It is to establish a badly needed clearing system and provides for the possibility of co-ordinating credit and monetary policy among the republics that con-tinue to use the rouble.

The leaders also agreed to set up a common framework for the securities being issued by republics as part of moves to a market economy. Mr Stanislav Shushkevich,

the Belorussian leader and summit host, told a news conference: "I must disappoint those who were predicting the end of the Commonwealth. We have seen things eye-to-eye as never before."

Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev said the signatories of the charter were "the Commonwealth integrators", thus acknowledging two different kinds of Commonmembership had

But President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine, which has been the most recalcitrant Commonwealth member, said the states now respected each other's right to be different: There are some questions which can only be decided in the Commonwealth but others must be left to bilateral relations. Today's meeting has shown we have begun to respect each other."

Russian President Boris Yeltsin said: "We understand we cannot live without each other even though Russia is better protected. Russia cannot live without Tajikistan, Ukraine or

Irish exchange rate scheme plan

By Tim Coone in Dublin

THE IRISH government has revealed details of a IS1.1bn (£1.2bn) exchange rate guarantee scheme to be used to alleviate financial pressures on Irish husinesses and mortgage holders hit be the recent currency turmoil

battled against a far-right The scheme will consist of offensive to take over the rultwo packages, one of I£500m directed at the manufacturing, ing party, the Hungarian Demfood-processing and tourism Mr Antall, a statesman-like industries to reduce their bormoderate who has led Hunrowing costs, and another of 12600m aimed at the building societies to avert a threatened the communist regime in 1990. 3 percentage point increase in put his political career on the line in his speech yesterday opening the Forum's congress. mortgage rates.

The commercial banks will Mr Antall, generally regarded as a vital element in borrow the funds in D-Marks and then lend them on to eligible companies at a maximum ity, threatened resignation if interest rate of 13.5 per cent. In the far-right took over the the case of the I£600m to be made available to the building societies, they will apparently The prime minister appealed be able to deposit the funds to the good sense of the party, back into the interbank market at commercial rates, to bring gered the stability which was Hungary's "prime asset", lackdown the average cost of their borrowings, forced up sharply ing in neighbouring countries.

by the currency crisis.

Some market analysts have expressed doubts about the scheme, which is expected to be functioning early next

week, especially about the ability of the authorities to "ringfence" the funds within the marketplace and prevent them

from being used to fuel a new speculative run on the punt. The Finance Ministry said yesterday: "The government will be quite insistent that there will be very close monitoring of how the funds are

The overall operation of the scheme will be reviewed in three months.

Although the punt strengthened considerably within the ERM this week, the key onemonth money rate in the Dublin interbank market has continued to hover around 20 per cent, keeping the pressure on banks and lending institutions. Sterling traded yesterday at close to 1.09 to the punt, as it continued to weaken on the back of poor economic figures. Most analysts in Dublin

agree it will be extremely difficult for many Irish exporters to keep their markets in the UK if such an exchange rate is sustained. This week, leaders of Ireland's timber industry warned that several thousand jobs might be lost "within weeks" because of the decline

Economists call for floating franc

By David Buchan in Paris

the anti-semitic writer after he A GROUP of private-sector French economists has called for the currency to be allowed But the prime minister's to float against the D-mark, opening up another crack in the establishment's consensus resolve appears to have hardened in the days running up to the congress as the far-right mounted personal attacks and on the need for a strong franc. At this week's Franco-Gera serious bid for power within man treaty anniversary celebrations, President Francois the Forum. "If somebody Mitterrand was firmly against any de-coupling of the franc from the D-Mark. Most proponents of a more flexible exchange rate have been idencomes at the worst possible tifiable anti-Europeans. But members of France's National challenges on all fronts. Pain-Association of Doctoral Graduful economic reforms, pursued ates in Economics have conamid a recession which has cluded in their latest bulletin seen GDP fall almost 20 per that although it has lower inflation than Germany, France will not succeed in port for the Forum fell to 8 per bringing its interest rates below those of Germany.

These economists are impressed with the three-point fall in UK short-term rates since sterling left the European exchange rate mechanism. Only a narrowing of the gap between France's low inflation rate and high nominal interest rates will make it worthwhile for French companies to resume investing and creating jobs, they argue: If a floating franc means a franc sinking against the D-Mark, "it would be better to accept it, as the price of stopping the asphyxlation of the French economy." In fact, the economy does not

ber. The requirement for

higher environmental stan-

dards from this month on led

to a surge in car sales at the

a response to the progressive normalisation of the currency 1992". seem to be choking, according to figures published yesterday European Monetary System forced the pound and the lira showing a 5.4 per cent rise in manufactured sales in Decemout of the system's exchange



Spain cuts key rate as peseta finds calmer waters

THE BANK of Spain yesterday

gave a strong signal that it believes that the peseta has put its currency troubles behind it. The bank announced a half-point cut in the key money rate at the repurchase tender of its bank's certificates. The bank said the decision to bring down the benchmark intervention rate from 13.75 per cent to 13.25 per cent was

markets as they recover from the upsets of the autumn of The monetary authorities had raised the rate from 13 per cent to 13.75 per cent on November 23 to shield the eseta against speculators following a 6 per cent devaluation of the currency. The peseta had already been devalued by 5 per cent two months earlier when the September upheavals in the

rate mechanism. Yesterday's move by the bank had been expected by the markets, as it came in the wake of a set of indicators that the peseta had been restored to

By the end of December, Spain's reserves, which had been hard hit in the battle to secure the peseta, improved by nearly \$3bn to finish 1992 with \$50.4bn (£33.1bn), and the currency has recently remained comfortably above the Pta72.78 to the D-Mark parity that was set in the November realignment.

Underlining the peseta's strength, the currency was fixed yesterday at its parity of Pta70.78 to the D-Mark, down from Pta7.80 before the announcement of the rate cut. Banco de Santander was the first of the big commercial banks to lower its preferential lending with a 0.5 cut from 12.95 per cent to 12.45 per cent. Fuelling the confidence of the Bank of Spain, price rises slowed appreciably in the last months of the year to give Spain a 5.4 per cent year-on-year inflation rate at

the end of December. The continuing depressed state of the economy is likely to bring the inflation rate below 5 per cent in the early months of

Anticipating an easing of the intervention rates, there has

in the Spanish bond market in recent weeks. Spanish debt held by non-residents rose to Ptal.87bn (£10.68m) at the end of last year from a Ptal,600bn low in mid-November and last week alone non-residents bought Pta155bn of

government paper. The Bank of Spain prepared the ground for yesterday's cut by injecting Pta596bn into the interbank market on Thursday, against a requirement of only Pta200bn, which brought the overnight rate down from 14.60 per cent to 14.05 per cent.

Analysts said there was room for further cuts in the benchmark rate as the differential in real interest rates between the peseta and the other EMS currencies remains very high. Three month Europeseta rates stand at around 600 basis points higher than the Euromark.

In February last year the intervention rate stood at 12.40 per cent, and the government, which faces elections this year. will be tempted to bring the current rate down further if the peseta remains strong and the inflation figures continue

Washington. Already, the US Congress has passed a bill which reduces US spending on Nato infrastructure this year to \$60m (£39.4m), down from a planned \$240m. The US traditionally contributes a quarter of annual Nato spending on infrastructure. Mr Worner warned that Defence planners are worried that Nato's European allies are reluctant to make up the short-

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cars may

ne. Nato.

German Japan's trade surplus surger surplus surger surplus surges to \$107.06bn

By Robert Thomson in Tokyo

JAPAN'S trade surplus surged 37.6 per cent last year to a record \$107.06bn (£70.40bn), as demand for imports weakened and the politically-sensitive surpluses with the US and European Community each rose by 14 per cent.

The Japanese government is concerned that the record surplus, far exceeding the previous high of \$82.7bn in 1986, will attract criticism from the new US Administration, which has indicated that it will take a tougher line on

Officials at the Ministry of Finance said an emergency economic package introduced late last year should stimulate demand for imports, but the Bank of Japan conceded that the surplus is unlikely to decline in the near

Customs-cleared exports rose over the year by 8 per cent to \$339.76bn, while imports were 1.7 per cent lower at \$232,70bn, the first decline since 1986 and a result of falling capital investment and a slowing of demand for imported luxury goods, particularly those from

During December, the surplus rose 12 per cent from the same month last year to \$11.23bn, following a 4.3 per cent increase in exports and a slim 0.3 per cent gain in

expanded by 11.9 per cent and those of chemical products were 11.4 per cent higher. Japanese officials said the expansion of the surplus reflected fluctuations in exchange rates and commodity

prices, but the export increase came partly from the attempts of Japanese industry to utilise excess capacity created during the late 1980s, when investment in new plant rose sharply. Over the year, exports of

cars and other transport machinery rose by 11.9 per cent and semiconductor equip-ment by 19.7 per cent, two of the most sensitive areas of trade with the US and Europe. Imports of EC cars fell 6.7 per cent and of art works by 64.1 per cent, a by-product of the collapsing "financial bub-

The 1992 trade statistics reflected Japan's increasing reliance on Asian markets, and the gathering momentum of the Chinese economy.

Japan's exports to China jumped 39.2 per cent and imports from China were 19 per cent higher, while Japan's surplus with the newlyindustrialised economies of Asia rose 17.6 per cent.

However, Japan's trade with Russia fell sharply, with exports down 49 per cent and imports 27.7 per cent lower. Exports to the UK rose 11.3 per cent to \$12.3bn, while imports from the UK were down 2.4 per



Emperor Akibito declares open the new session of parliament in Japan yesterday. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa pledged to expand Japan's international peace-keeping role, boost its economy and restore popular trust in politics.

Clinton introduced to ways of Washington

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton has now joined the sort of club of which he would rather not be a member. Like five of his six predecessors, he has seen a nominee go down in flames and his own administration get off to the sort of start it would have preferred to avoid.

In accepting Ms Zoe Baird's withdrawal as prospective attorney-general, Mr Clinton essentially decided to cut his losses and save his credits for a battle more central to his presidency, like health care and iohs creation. But sacrificing a nominee in the first two days of office does not quite convey the sense of strength and purpose that he hoped he would bring to the office.

Weighing on Mr Clinton's mind must have been the precedents which provide conflicting advice. President George Bush stuck with the nomination of Mr John Tower to be defence secretary, lost it, and never really regained the upper hand with Congress.

President Jimmy Carter faced two such battles. He stuck with Mr Bert Lance, his budget director, and won confirmation, only to have Mr Lance resign under a cloud of scandal six months later. He let Mr Theodore Sorensen, his CLA nominee, withdraw. The combination of both affairs may have marked the begin-ning of the slow unravelling of confidence in his presidency.

President Ronald Reagan saw a lesser state department nominee, Mr Ernest Lefever, a particularly controversial right winger, denied office, but that proved to be a mere blip on his first term. In 1987 he could not get Senate approval of Mr Robert Bork for the Supreme Court, a fate that also befell the Court nominees of Presidents Johnson and Nixon later in their terms. Ms Baird was undone, politi-

cally, by a curious combination

of circumstances. Mr Clinton

himself seems to have chosen her at the very last minute she was previously in line to be White House legal counsel. Exactly what he knew about her personal problems in employing an illegal immigrant couple remains unclear. In the crunch, he never stood four square behind her, which exposed the weakness of her own political constituency. As a corporate lawyer, she seemed to appeal more to Republicans in the Senate than to Democrats. She had not been in the forefront of any of the progressive movements so dear to the

This week she picked up two powerful opponents, both Demprincipled (and black) law pro-

Democratic Party.

of Texas University and Ms Patricia King of Georgetown. Both said that someone who has admitted breaking the law, as Ms Baird had, was disqualified from being the nation's chief law enforcement officer.

Her crime was quickly deemed a "yuppie" offence, and much was made of the fact that someone who was earning \$500,000 a year did not have to stoop to employing illegal immigrants. That the offence is rampant in Washington and the nation's more affluent suburbs mattered less than the floods of hostile mail received by the Senators from their less affluent constituents and by the weight of opposition reflected in instant polls and talk show conversations, many of which recalled Mr Clinton's campaign promise to respect those who "paid their taxes ... and played by the rules."

Even if Mr Clinton can limit the damage, he is still left with a tricky problem of finding another attorney general. The women's lobby, which had begun to distance itself from Ms Baird in the last 48 hours, still expects a woman to run the justice department, which was the President's proud proclamation just last month.

At the very least President Bill Clinton has received an early and salutary education in the ways of Washington

Summers faces thorny task of revitalising G7

By Michael Prowse in

HE is undoubtedly clever, forceful and articulate, but is he a natural diplomat? That is the question likely to be asked about Mr Lawrence Summers, named this week as under-secretary for international affairs at the US Treasury - the post held in the Bush administra-tion by Mr David Mulford.

At the Treasury, Mr Summers is likely to have prime responsibility in two crucial areas - economic policy co-ordination between the Group of tries and support for economic reform in the former Soviet republics.

His new boss, Mr Lloyd Bentsen, the Treasury Secretary, has emphasised his desire to revitalise the G7. The delicate task is likely to fall to Mr Sum-

mers. The potential for conflict is considerable. The US badly wants other G7 powers to shore up its still fragile recov-ery by stimulating their own economies. Mr Summers is likely to argue that countries like Germany, should put less stress on fighting inflation and

more on promoting growth and

Mr Summers moves to the Treasury from the World Bank where he was serving as chief economist, on leave from his economics chair at Harvard University. He has long coveted a top Washington job, having served as economic adviser in the abortive 1988 Democratic presidential cam-

He initially set his sights on the chairmanship of President Bill Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers. That job went to Ms Laura Tyson.
But if confirmed by the Sen-

ate, Mr Summers may find the Treasury international post a



Summers: need for diplomacy

day-to-day policymaking; the CEA, by contrast is an advisory body with no direct line

responsibility. Nobody doubts Mr Summers' intellectual abilities. He received tenure at Harvard at the unusually young age of 28 and became a prolific author of academic papers in diverse fields, including tax theory (he is a trenchant supporter of investment tax credits), unemployment and the efficiency of financial markets.

Mr Summers' stint at the World Bank, however, was not without controversy. Unusually for an academic, Mr Summers speaks with an assurance bordering on arrogance; he has an almost Thatcherite lack of self doubt.

His worst error was an insensitively written memo that appeared to advocate the dumping of toxic waste in less developed countries.

According to Mr Summers the memo was intended to spark internal debate, not a policy recommendation. It nevertheless infuriated environmentalists and may have cost him a Cabinet level post in the Clinton administration. At the Treasury, similar mistakes of judgment could have far worse consequences.

over move to lift curbs on abortion By George Graham in Washington

Protests

ANTI-abortion protesters gathered in front of the White House yesterday as President Bill Clinton prepared to reverse some of the restrictions on abortion imposed during the Reagan and Bush presiden

The White House said Mr Clinton would sign executive orders lifting restrictions on abortion counselling or referrais by anyone other than qualified doctors at clinics which

receive federal funding. A five-year ban on federal sue from aborted foetuses was also expected to be overturned. The moves came on the 20th

anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in Roe vs Wade which established that the right to privacy, grounded in the 14th amendment to the US constitution, protects a woman's decision whether or not to bear a child.

Congressional leaders, who are worried that today's more conservative Supreme Court might overturn the Roe vs Wade decision, are planning legislation enshrining its principles in law. These principles give entire freedom to a woman and her physician in the first three months of a pregnancy, allow some state regulation in the second three months and permit states to ban all abortions in the third three months, except where the mother's life is in danger. Although the abortion issue does not split entirely along party lines, the Democrats have in general supported the right to choose an abortion. while the Republican party has

taken a pro-life position. Some abortion rights campaigners hope that with presi-dential backing they can now from the defensive and emphasise education and contraception, in an effort to reduce the

number of abortions.

The Center for Disease Control estimates that around 1.6m abortions take place in the US every year, approximately one for every three live births.

US housing starts up

By Michael Prowse in

THE Commerce Department yesterday reported a 5.5 per cent increase in housing starts between November and December, a larger than expec-

ted increase. For 1992 as a whole, starts rose 18.5 per cent, the first annual gain since 1986. Starts rose in all parts of the country last month, except the west, reflecting continuing recession

in California.

Building permits, a guide to future construction activity. also rose sharply to their high est level in nearly three years. The rise in starts follows a mildly encouraging assessment of regional conditions this week from the Federal

Firm recovery 'may take some time'

JAPAN'S economy will not start to recover until the second half of this year, the Bank of Japan warned yesterday in its quarterly economic outlook. But the economy will avoid a severe credit crunch threatened by a financial system weakened by

The bank said private sector demand would not recover in the first six months of the personal with

By George Graham In Washington

US aircraft again fired missiles

yesterday at an Iraqi air

defence battery that had

turned on its radar, but neither

side seemed anxious to declare

that the ceasefire ordered by

Iraqi President Saddam Hus-

Iraq said it had no missile

US officials said the activa-

tion of the radar could be a

deliberate provocation by Iraq, but added that it was also pos-

sible that an individual anti-

aircraft battery had not

received or had disobeyed the

ceasefire order. Orders issued to US, French

and British aircraft patrolling

the two air exclusion zones in

northern and southern Iraq

have not changed since the

new US administration of Pres-

ident Bill Clinton took office

on Wednesday. Pilots may fire

sein had broken down.

batteries in the area.

business sentiment exhibits any firm recovery," the bank

The report said the economy would gradually recover as last year's cuts in interest rates and the recently approved supplementary budget of public works filtered through into the economy.

Economists believe the bank will soon come under renewed pressure to cut interest rates further with inflation abating and consumer confidence investment Democratic Party is preparing supply, which fell by 0.5 per in the volume of business.

Ceasefire 'survives' as US

or ground defences.

aircraft fire missiles in Iraq

Threatening action certainly

includes "lock-on" by fire con-

trol radar attached to anti-air-

craft missile batteries. Penta-

gon officials say a pilot on the

receiving end of these high fre-

quency radars generally knows

he is seconds away from being

a missile target. It is less clear whether coali-

tion aircraft are also author-

ised to fire when they are

"painted" or "illuminated" by

search radar, which operate at

US aircraft on Thursday

attacked a radar which had merely illuminated them, but

immediately before the radar

was switched on they had

come under anti-aircraft artil-

President Clinton and his

advisers have made clear that

they are sticking to the policy

of insisting that Iraq comply

fully with United Nations reso-

much lower frequencies.

event of any hostile or threat-ening action by Iraqi aircraft any threat against allied air-

boost the economy. The Tokyo stock market

remains vulnerable to a renewed fall if companies start to sell some of their holdings of securities to boost their profits towards the end of the financial year in March. The bank insisted there

would be no credit crunch as the hard pressed Japanese banks are ready to expand lending as the economy recovers. Low bank lending has been one of the main factors behind the recent

craft in the no-fly zones.

• James Whittington in Baghdad adds: Diplomats in

Iraq said yesterday the regime

seemed to have reversed its

former aggressive tone towards

settling the crisis, but questioned whether it would

All heads of the remaining

diplomatic missions in Bagh-

dad were yesterday summoned

to the Iraqi foreign office to be told by the foreign minister, Mr Mohammed Sa'id Kazin al

Sahhaf, that Iraq intends to

stick to its ceasefire. The min-ister denied that its army had

triggered Thursday's attack in

radar on.

Large companies have had no problems funding their borrowing needs through issuing bonds and commercial paper. However smaller companies, which are exhausting their capacity to fund investment through selling liquid assets are starting to increase their loan

Commercial banks are relaxing lending policies for their branches partly because

The report also predicts that the money supply will soon begin to recover with the increase in public spending on

public works.
Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, the prime minister, addressing the opening of the Japanese parliament, said the economy was in a grim state and Japan was in the midst of political and social upheaval. He called for Japan to

increase its international contributions, for social reforms to create a better quality of life for consumers eliminate corruption.

Battle to control blazing supertanker

By Kleran Cooke in Kuala Lumpur

TUG boats and fire fighting vessels were last night battling to prevent an environmental disaster and control a fire on board the Maersk Navigator, a fully-laden supertanker drifting 100 miles off the northern tip of the Indonesian island of

The supertanker, carrying nearly two million barrels of crude oil, collided with a smaller unladen tanker at the northern entrance to the Malacca Strait early on Thursday. The 24-man crew, including the British captain, abandoned ship and were rescued by a passing vessel. The Maersk Navigator's Dan-

the north by switching its ish owners say the supertanker The regime has published an is leaking oil and a slick two opinion poll showing that 82 per cent of Iraqis said they supmiles long and 200 metres wide was reported yesterday. The ported Mr Saddam Hussein's owners say the oil is seeping from one of twelve cargo holds. peace initiative while 18 per cent said they wanted further military confrontation. The ship is reported to be

and the owners say it is likely that any oil spilled so far will evaporate. A salvage crew has managed to board the vessel and tug boats have attached lines. But there is still no independent assessment of the

scale of the problem.

The coastal authorities in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore have been put on alert, ready to tackle an oil spillage. Both the Maersk Navigator and the Sanko Honour, the other ship involved, are registered in Singapore. The authorities there have launched an investigation.
A Singapore salvage expert

said the salvage teams will try to contain the fire on board the Maersk Navigator and assess how serious is the leak from its cargo tanks. "It could take several days to cool the vessel down and transfer such a large amount of oil onto another supertanker." he said. "It's a very delicate operation and there's always the possibility

sweet consolation prize. He will be intimately involved in

Major goes to India By Ralph Atkinsin London

prime minister, leaves for India today planning to stress the importance of further eco-

Whitehall officials were playing down the likelihood of deals being announced during the prime minister's trip. But he will be accompanied by 17 businessmen from some of Britain's largest companies, including British Aerospace which is hoping for progress on a contract to sell Hawk

Britain is the largest foreign investor in India. Mr Major will be guest of honour at India's republic day celebrations on Tuesday. He is expected also to discuss huclear proliferation and Kashmir with the India

Likud candidate in sex scandal accuses rivals of dirty tricks

ISRAELIS yesterday got the news they had been waiting for all week. It was not about Iraq, or the Palestinian deportees

The scandal, inevitably dubbed "Bibiissue in his campaign to succeed retiring former premier Mr Yitzhak Shamir as party leader in March.

Mr Netanyahu, a former junior minister, is best known as Israel's high-profile spokesman during the Gulf war. He says blackmail him over an extra-marital affair symbolises the corruption within Israeli politics which he means to end in a new era of American-style open democracy. His opponents counter that his accusations ter. Mr Levy dismisses the allegations as

sumed only by personal ambition.

The scandal emerged when Bibi , as

everyone calls Mr Netanyahu, appeared on television to announce that his wife Sara had been telephoned with a threat to make public a videotape of Mr Netanyahu in a "compromising romantic situation" if he did not withdraw from the leadership election. Mr Netanyahu admitted to an affair which he said had ended, but denounced the alleged blackmail as the work of supporters of an unnamed Likud rival who, Bibi said, surrounded himself with criminals. He reported the issue to the police, who are investigating the blackmail alle-

when they revealed that the woman in question was Mr Netanyahu's former public image adviser whose husband is now seeking to divorce her, citing her relationship with Mr Netanyahu. Mr Netanyahu's blackmail accusation

angered that Mr Levy, in a tireless round of appearances at private events such as marriages, bar-mitzvas and circumcisions, had registered more party members for the leadership contest than Bibi. The outburst, they say, was an attempt to damage Mr Both Mr Levy and the other main Likud

candidate, the po-faced Mr Binyamin Begin, scorn Mr Netanyahu's Americanisation of Israeli politics, with his well-financed, highly-personalised public cam-But Mr Netanyahu, educated at the Mas-

sachussetts Institute of Technology, is far from beaten. His approach to politics does appear to be in tune with modern Israelis. He has several times been voted the country's most desirable man. Yesterday, a poll put him, at 34 per cent to 28 per cent, ahead of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in public popularity and streets ahead of

"I believe I will become prime minister. My self-confidence is untouched," Mr Netanyahu said in a newspaper interview.



Bibi Netanyahu: self-confidence untouched

MR JOHN Major, the British

nomic reform in the country if British investment there is to

trainer lets to the Indian air

By Hugh Carnegy in Jerusalem

crisis. It was the naming of the "other woman" in a scandal which has engulfed Mr Binyamin "Bibi" Netanyahu and threatened his powerful bid to become leader of the rightwing opposition Likud party and, perhaps, Israeli prime minister.

gate", is much more than a tabloid potboiler over Mr Netanyahu's self-confessed adultery. He himself has made it a central

an alleged attempt by Likud rivals to

Yesterday, newspapers fuelled the row

both Mr Begin and Mr Levy. was assumed to be aimed at the camp of Mr David Levy, the former foreign minis-

Lloyd's chief promises sharp cost-cutting

By Richard Lapper

LLOYD'S OF LONDON is poised to launch a radical assault on its cost base, Mr Peter Middleton, chief executive, told a meeting of Names yes-

Mr Middleton said neither he nor Mr David Rowland, the chairman of Lloyd's, would be prepared to continue in their jobs if the cuts were not implemented by agencies and brokers.

He told a meeting organised by the Society of Names, which acts as a pressure group for lossmaking Names: "The market must accept them or it will continue to slide. I

By David Lascelles,

THE thick set of reports which

the Department of Trade and

Industry issued yesterday will

make depressing reading for

The independent consultants

hired by the DTI to illuminate

the coal debate support in grim

detail what the government

has claimed all along: that

British Coal's present size can-not be justified commercially.

and that it will have to

undergo deep cuts very quickly

if it is to have any worthwhile

that a cost-cutting exercise

might save a small number of

pits currently listed for clo-

As the four reports make clear, British Coal is in a

shrinking market where its

costs are far above those of for-

US mining engineers John T.

Boyd Company, which exam-

ined the viability of British

Coal's pits, commends the cor-

poration for its 234 per cent

increase in productivity over

the last seven years, but points

out that Australian and US

coal miners are still three to

five times more productive.

Because British Coal can never

hope to match overseas pro-

ducers - partly for reasons beyond its control such as geol-

ogy - its future is irrevocably

linked to whatever it can

However Caminus Energy,

which was asked to look at

future demand for coal in the

UK, expects it to fall from

95.2m tonnes in 1991-92 to 71m

in 1997-98 at the most, possibly

as little as 58.6m. The differ-

ence depends on the way

energy prices move over the

next few years. If they stay

high British Coal will be able

to hold on to more of the mar-

ket, but if they weaken, it will

lose out. Its main rival, Cami-

secure of the UK market.

The only crumb of comfort is

Resources Editor

the coal lobby.

future at all.

eign competitors.

don't want to be connected with an connects the market's individual enterprise that doesn't want to be the best."

Mr Middleton intends to produce a detailed business plan by the second half of April. He said: "The changes are going to

be very painful, but they are very necessary. Unless we implement them, we will have no basis on which to attract capital." Failure to implement the changes

would condemn Lloyd's to "mediocrity and growing irrelevance in the world of insurance. It is that serious."

Potentially far-reaching changes to the Lloyd's agency system - which

Reports into the future of the coal industry

Government view on

MAIN POINTS

In the context of reduced mar-

ket size, the general strategy and

overall future for each pit

announced in October appears

Significant cost reductions.

plus improved safety and produc

tivity, could be achieved by the

application of modern technology.

■ Important to address techno-

logical and structural problems

as soon as possible to achieve

cost benefits and a healthy, com-

■ Past performance is not a reli-

able measure of future potential as all collieries in the list of 21 would need to achieve substantial

Improvements in productivity and

■ UK market for coal set to con-

tract sharply over the next five

years, primarily because of reduction in coal use for power

generation in England and Wales

as new gas-fired plant comes into

■ Gas prices would need to

increase to about double the level

of existing contracts in real terms

nus says, is natural gas which

provides much cheaper new

generating capacity than coal,

and is environmentally friend-

Faced with this harsh real-

ity, the question is how far

British Coal can go in bringing

down its costs, because the

cheaper the coal it can pro-

duce, the greater the share of

the market it will command.

The reports look at 21 of the 31

pits which British Coal wants to close - the other 10 were

listed for immediate closure

and are being examined sepa-

John T. Boyd visited all the

for coal to become more econo-

ically attractive in new plant.

Caminus Energy:

closures supported

John T. Boyd:

traders or Names with their underwriting syndicates - are under consideration as part of the business plan.

In particular Mr Middleton will look carefully at the future of members' agencies, which deal directly with the affairs of Names.

"I think it would be better to centralise everything other than investment advice and recruitment of Names," said Mr Middleton.

He was bitterly critical of the way the market processes claims. "A flow-chart of the claims payments system resembled a combination of the New York subway, the London

the first, it assumed that work-

ing practices are unchanged.

but that new technology is

introduced and labour reduc-

tions are accelerated - a con-

tinuation of present trends. In

the second it assumed that

work practices are improved to

create more flexible shifts, and

that mining regulations are changed to allow further cuts

The differences are striking.

By April 1996 British Coal

could be producing 13m to 19m

tonnes more coal annually in

the second scenario, depending

on the exact cost level. How-

ever it would have to bring its

costs down substantially. UK

coal is costed at £1.51 per giga-

joule for the next set of con-

tracts starting in April, against

international prices of £0.90.

John T. Boyd assumes prices

can be brought down to the

The market prospects are

assessed by Caminus which

also looked at different scenar-

ios. In the first, it assumed

international fuel prices would

be high with coal trading at

£1.21 a gigajoule. In this case,

sales would be 53.9m tonnes in

1997-98. In the second it priced

coal at only £0.90 a gigajoule,

and sales fell to 22.8m tonnes.

that British Coal will do better

in a high-price market, both

forecasts are well down on the

85.7m tonnes sold last year.

However there is a ray of hope

here for the miners because

the 1997-98 figure includes

42.4m tonnes of coal for the

power generators, well above

the 30m which British Coal

now expects to sell to them.

But to achieve this extra 12.4m

tonnes, everything - the cost

savings and the international

fuel price - would have to go

Although Caminus does

not say what this would

mean in terms of pits and jobs

British Coal's way.

pits under review and came up saved, the rule of thumb with two possible scenarios. In is 1,000 jobs and one pit for

Although this showed, again,

£1.10 to £1.40 range.

in manning levels.

Underground and the Paris Metro, with a map of the European railway network superimposed."

Lloyd's had managed to "make a very simple system terribly complicated". he said.

The market needed to revamp the way it collected and analysed data, added Mr Middleton. He said: "Some of the ways information is collected are 10 times more costly than need

Mr Middleton has already announced a cut in the budget of the corporation, which administers the market, from £145m to £117.9m. Mr Middleton intends to tell corporation staff how the cuts will be implemented by the end of February. Lloyd's has welcomed a US court judgment in a multi-million dollar dispute involving pollution at a site operated by Shell Oil at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in Denver, Colo-

The California Court of Appeal ruled that liability for pollution at the site is excluded from the company's insurance policies, where Shell manufactured chemicals from

Underwriters at Lloyd's were among a number of insurers which provided liability coverage to Shell, which manufactured chemicals there

Shell was obliged to clean up the site with the cost estimated at more than \$1bn (£600m). The London market's potential exposure is estimated

at several hundred million dollars. The case is one of dozens involving insurers, including Lloyd's and companies in the London market,

and US policyholders. Shell originally filed suit against its insurers in 1983, seeking to show that its insurance policies made insurers liable. In 1988 insurers won initial judgment in the San Francisco Court.

Lloyd's said: "This is a very welcome decision in important and extremely complex litigation."

Pits under threat*

Economic ranking

Case II		Case 2.	-
Pr ·	ojected man £ per gigajouse	glo P	rejected merg per gigajoule
1 Maltby	0.21	Malitby	0.41
2 Hatfield	0.15	2 Hatfield	0.35
3 Prince of Wales	0.10	Prince of Wale	s 0,27
4 Frickley	0.10	4 Frickley	0.27
5 Point of Ayr	0.04	6 Flossington	0.28
6 Bentley	-	6 Point of Ayr	0.18
7 Rossington	-0.02	7 Wearmouth	0.12
8 Wearmouth	-0.06	8 Silverdale	0.14
9 Calverton	-0.08	9 Bentley	0.17
10 Kiveton Park	-0.09	10 Stirebrook	0.08
11 Bilsthorpe	0.13	Bilsthorpe	0.64
12 Silverdale	-0:11	12 Calverton	0.02
13 Shirebrook	-0.13	13 Clipstone	0.01
14 Markham	-0.15	Kiveton Park	-0.01
15 Bolsover	-0.23	15 Rufford	-0.03
16 Clipstone	-0.26	16 Markhem	-0.05
17 Rufford	-0.28	Bevercotes	-0.19
18 Shariston	-0.38	13 Shariston	-0.23
19 Bevercotes	-0.42	19 Bolsover	-0.38
20 Westoe	0.52	20 Westoe	-0.46
21 Sociontos	0.65	Oli Controton	_0.5E

Fil counder	•	· V.L.	THE LEGIS NAME OF	4.00
British coal	cost	s and ou	tput (in April	1996)
Cost level E per gigajoule	÷	Cas m ion	e 1 †	Case 2 ‡
1.10	٠.,			15
1.20	•		r in the second	32
1,30		25	? . ~ > + + +	41
1.40 Source: Boyd		34		47

The first does not include 10 mines earmarked by British Coal for early closure T Case 1 assumes present mining regulations in force

Case 2 assumes law changes to allow longer shifts and there are computed redundancies.

in overheads of £90m could be

The reports are therefore a vindication of the government's aim of cutting back that they take no account of aid received by other power sources - for example the nuclear levy. But the presumption is that the UK energy husiness must ultimately stand

)a	se 1†	÷	Case 2‡	
	Pr ·	ojected mer 2 per gigajouse	glo	Projected may £ per gigajoule
Ĺ	Maltby	0.21	Maltby	0.41
2	Hatfield	0.15	2 Hatfield	0.35
3	Prince of Wales	0.10	Prince of Wa	des 0.27
4]	Frickley	0.10	4 Frickley	0.27
5	Point of Ayr	0.04	5 Rossington	0.28
3	Bentley		6 Point of Ayr	0.18
7	Rossington	-0.02	7 Wearmouth	0.12
8]	Wearmouth.	-0.06	6 Silverdale	0.14
2	Ceiverton	-0.08	9 Bentley	0.17
0	Kiveton Park	-0.09	10 Strinebrook	0.08
1	Bilsthorpe	-0.13	Bilsthorpe	0.64
2	Silverdale	-0:11	12 Calverton	0.02
3	Shirebrook	-0.13	13 Clipstone	0.01
4	Markham	-0.15	Kiveton Pari	-0.01
5	Bolsover	0.23	15 Rufford	-0.03
6	Clipstone	-0.26	16 Markhem	-0. 05
7	Rufford	-0.28	Bevercotes	-0.19
8	Shariston .	-0.38	18 Shariston	-0.23
9	Bevercotes	-0.42	19 Bolsover	-0.38
0	Westoe	0.52	20 Westoe	-0.46
1	Easington	-0.55	21 Easington	-0.55

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ritish coal	cost	e and ou	tout (in Ar	xff 1996)
ost iever per gigajotis	÷	Cas	e 1 7	. Case 2 ‡
1.10 1.20	•			15 32
1,30		2	* ***	41
1.40		3/	ki in salaya	47

tonnes. which, it says, have not fallen liery. The number of regional level, it says, is a 20 per cent groups should be halved and improvement to £47,000 in

business systems modernised. PIMS Associates, manage-

ment consultants, said savings achieved if British Coal matched international standards. But its report doubts. that it could ever match the best-practice benchmark in the industry of £75,000 of value added per employee in the next

three years. few years. A more realistic on its own two feet.

MPs back Sunday shopping curbs

By David Owen

PRESSURE ON the government to speed up reform of Sunday trading laws in England and Wales intensified yesterday as MPs voted decisively to allow a private member's bill seeking tight restrictions on Sunday opening to progress to line-by-line committee stage scrutiny.
Mr Ray Powell's Shops

(Amendment) Bill - backed by the Keep Sunday Special campaign - received its second Commons reading by a major-

ity of 173 (214 votes to 41). Supporters of the proposals later called on the government to accept their offer to consider constructive amendments to the bill in order to get a law on to the statute book by this summer. But Mr Peter Lloyd, home office minister, told MPs the changes deemed necessary by the government were "more than can be managed" in a private member's bill committee.

He said he would be "disappointed" if the government's Sunday trading bill, offering MPs a choice between options ranging from full-scale deregulation to a tightening of existing laws, was not ready in the next few weeks. But he admitted he held out little hope of bringing such a bill before the House until autumn.

Mr Michael Schluter, director of the Keep Sunday Special campaign, said the campaign would continue to co-operate with those drafting the government's bill but reserved the right to ask its supporters to oppose the measure if it did not include "proper employee protection".

Audit regulation regime 'has improved standards'

MORE THAN 90 per cent of auditors think the quality of their work has improved following the introduction of the new audit regulation regime, a survey showed yesterday. And more than a third say they have noticed considerable

Many accountants have had to make changes to their methods, systems, quality controls, staff training and administration in the past year, according to 176 practitioners questioned by Audit Briefing, a monthly newsletter published by Tolley, financial publishers. Audit regulation was intro-duced by the 1989 Companies

Act and became active in October 1991, with the launch of inspections by self-regulatory monitoring bodies. The survey showed that substantial changes had been made in preparation for the regime, although only 11 per

cent of those questioned had been visited by regulators. A third believed more audit work was now required for particular types of client, especially for small and family

has been reprimanded and fined £2,000 for auditing a company without being properly appointed its auditor. Mr Alan William Deighan of

llford, Essex was also ordered to pay £1,200 in costs by the disciplinary committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

In a separate appeal, Mr Leslie Neil Eriera of Barkingside, Essex, was stripped of mem-bership of the Institute and ordered to pay £750 costs after being found guilty in the Crown Court last year of two offences of false accounting.

Mr John Fowler of Bishop Auckland, County Durham, was severely reprimanded and businesses and other regulated clients. More than 90 per cent of firms had experienced an increase in chargeable hours

increase in costs. In view of the competitive market for audit services, more than half the firms absorbed at least part of the costs. Nearly 90 per cent felt the

required to audit the average

client, and a corresponding

A CHARTERED accountant fined £1,500 plus £1,200 in has been reprimanded and costs for failing to deal properly with inquiries from other chartered accountants and failing to provide information requested by investigators.

Projected British coal sales

1991/2 93/4

Assuming low international fuel prices and 12 gigaratis of combined cycle gas tubbre capacity

All the reports go into how in line with cuts at the work-

British Coal could cut its costs place. It believes British Coal

1.4

73.0 34.9 41.2 43.6

11.3 10.6 10.7 10.7 10.7 10.6

85.7 46.8 53.1 55.4 52.6 53.9 onal fuel prices and 9 gipawatts of combined cycle gas sles 1997-8

73.0 10.7 13.6 11.7 16.0 16.3

11.3 9.1 7.7 6.6 6.3 6.0

1.4 1.2 1.0 0.9 0.7 0.5

85.7 21.0 22.3 19.2 23.0 22.8

1,3 1.2 1.1 1.0 0.9

High coal scenario (m tornes)

Low cost scenario (m toposs)

Power sector

Exports

Non-power sector

Power sector

Non-power sector

Exports

Source: Castainus Energy

in some detail. John T. Boyd

provides a string of recommen-

dations, including giving the

local colliery manager more

autonomy, further introduction

of new technology, and

changes in existing work

tancy firm, was asked to look

at administrative overheads

Ernst & Young, the accoun-

restrictions and statutes.

TOTAL

Mr Ronald Harvey Oddy of Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, and Mr Colin Peacock of Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, were both reprimanded and fined £1,000 and £500 in costs for passing client monies through the firm's office account.

Mr Paul Brnest Vincent Scholtke, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, lost his appeal for engaging in public practice without a practising certificate, and was reprimanded and ordered to pay £500 towards costs.

work required to comply with audit regulation was to some degree superfluous. But three quarters of those visited by the regulators felt their recommendations were reasonable, two thirds that they were of considerable use, and 16 per cent believed they were very useful. Audit Briefing. Tolley House, Addiscombe Rd, Croydon, Surrey. CR9 5AF. 25.

Jaguar plans £700m investment

could save £73.6m to £107.1m a

year by 1996-97 by cutting and

simplifying the administrative

system. But this would involve

the loss of about 3,000

white-collar jobs. Ernst &

Young recommended that a

small corporate office be

retained in central London,

with other headquarter ser-

vices re-located close to a col-

By Kevin Done Motor Industry Correspondent

JAGUAR, the UK luxury carmaker and a subsidiary of Ford of the US, said yesterday that it plans to invest about £700m during the next five years in the development of new models and the modernisation of its production plants. The five-year business plan

 The development of replacement models for Jaguar's existing XJ6 saloon and XJS coupé and convertible ranges. • The addition of smaller sporty saloons to compete with

models such as the BMW 5-Series, and The development of a range of V8 engines to be built at the Ford engine plant at Bridgend, south Wales.

The programme to develop a revamped XJ6 saloon, codenamed X300, which is due to be launched in the autumn of next year, has already been approved by Ford, which acquired Jaguar in 1989.

Lautro reports low standards

A QUARTER of the companies inspected by Lautro, the life insurance industry's watchdog, in the year to June 1992 did not have procedures adequate to ensure that suitable advice was provided to clients.

Mr Kit Jebens, Lautro's chief executive, said: "I don't think standards are where we want to get to." He added that the shortcom-

ings of companies had often come from lack of understanding rather than deliberate neglect, but added that after five years of the self-regulatory regime "25 per cent is too high a failure rate' The annual report of Lau-

tro's monitoring committee also shows that complaints increased by 17 per cent from the previous 12 months, from 4,069 to 4,763. The number of "significant" complaints passed to Lautro members for action increased from 1,332 to

1,999, the report shows. Lautro's findings are the result of its programme of 136 periodic inspection visits to members during the 12 months

the companies inspected were life insurance companies because the regulator's main concern at present is with sales forces.

The total number of sales representatives registered by Lautro to give investment advice has declined in the past year from nearly 200,000 to about 170,000.

A new series of inspection visits will start next month, and continue for 30 months.

Mr Jebens said the figures pointed to a considerable improvement in standards in the industry, and added: "While it is impossible to guarantee that no salesperson or member will ever put a foot wrong again, we can say with some confidence that the probability is greatly reduced and that the quality of advice and client handling has improved very significantly."

He cited an independent report into one life company's client questionnaires as evidence. The report said that in mid-1988 75 per cent of these questionnaires had been inadequate to provide financial advice. By last year this had

Hoover's, die Glasgow plant saved HOOVER'S production plant at Glasgow has been saved through a deal yesterday between the US consumer product company and the

Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, Robert Taylor writes. The 1,000-strong workforce at the Cambuslang plant has approved the agreement. An estimated 700 jobs will be created - 400 at Cambuslang and the rest at Hoover's production

facilities at Merthyr Tydfil, south Wales. The agreement involves a 12month pay freeze and radical changes in working practices, including the introduction of flexible and interchangeable

skill working. Hoover is expected to announce the closure of its French production plant at Dijon next week.

Editors to widen complaints body

NEWSPAPER editors yesterday signalled they were prepared to respond to criticism of the Press Complaints Commission by changing its composition to guarantee a majority of members from outside the industry.

A statement by the Newspaper Publishers Association said a meeting of 21 editors unanimously rejected the proposal in the Calcutt report on press freedom for statutory regulation. But they agreed that wider membership of the commission should be accompanied by changes to its code of practice to safeguard against eavesdropping and bugging.

The editors agreed also to consider a proposal from some newspapers that appointments to the commission might be made by a body independent of the industry.

EC business law to be scrutinised

THE IMPACT of European Community law on business will come under government scrutiny aimed at minimising intrusion.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the trade and industry secretary, is to supervise the exercise which will have a steering group including two representatives from the private sector.

Nissan fears over football club plan

NISSAN, the car manufacturer, yesterday said it was concerned that Sunderland Football Club's plans for a new 48,000-seat stadium, shopping and leisure complex on land next to its car plant could create traffic congestion which would affect its strictly scheduled just-in-time component deliveries.

The club's proposed £120m complex on green-belt land beside Nissan's 750-acre Sunderland site includes parking for nearly 20,000 cars.

Underwriter dies of gun wound

MR ROY BROMLEY, 71, the former underwriter of Lloyd's syndicate 475, has been found dead of a shotgun wound at his home in London. Police are not treating the death as suspicious.

Mr Bromley's syndicate specialised in catastrophe reinsurance. Knightstone, the agency now managing the syndicate's affairs, recently estimated losses were at least £50m, double the syndicate's £25m capacity or capital base.

Student's Charter limit announced

THE Student's Charter will not establish minimum national standards for higher education but will largely be limited to setting out rights of students within their institutions, Mr Tim Boswell, higher education minister, said

He added: "It would be wrong for us to try to dictate from the centre any kind of national service standards."

Lambeth council report alleges corruption of £10m

By Andrew Adonis

CORRUPTION and malpractice on an "unprecedented" scale have cost the south London borough of Lambeth upwards of £10m, according to a confidential report by Mr Herman Ouseley, the council's chief execu-

The report is a catalogue of work done without proper authority, report may be investigated by the unauthorised redundancy payments, Serious Fraud Squad, whatever

overcharging by the council's direct- action the council itself takes. labour organisation and overcharging by former council employees brought in as sub-contractors by the organisation.

Some cases uncovered involve double charging. The most serious cases involve the borough's housing department. The findings of Mr Ouseley's

the issue of disbanding the direct-labour organisation and putting its services out to tender. The allegations involve officials. council workers and contractors and

The report, debated by councillors at an emergency meeting last night, suggests that police be called in and recommends that an independent enquiry be established. It also raises

> tax, and rates. Mr Steven Whaley, the council's Labour leader, called for a "no-holds-

Throughout most of the period in barred" inquiry by a leading barris-question Lambeth was under the ter, but conceded that the council question Lambeth was under the control of a leftwing Labour admin-

Lambeth's finances have long been in a critical state. It has the highest poll tax in England - £425 after capping - and more than £157m outstanding in uncollected rents, poll

Mr Peter Evans, deputy leader of

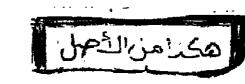
had not been as "vigorous and vigilant" as it should have been.

Mr Keith Fitchett, Liberal Democrat leader, said the report reflected "a complete breakdown of managerial control in Lambeth, arising from the . . . debilitating relationship between the Labour party and local government unions

the council's Conservative group, called the report a "whitewash" and said it was "the tip of the ice-

Mr Jack Straw, Labour's environment spokesman, said he wanted "strong and effective action to deal with the quite appalling abuses

revealed by this report".
"We expect to see decisions taken quickly to ensure that these abuses are never allowed to happen again."



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By Peter Marsh and Philip Stephens

CAPABLE. CAPABLE, honest, straightforward and very sound. These words appear on the school report of the 11year-old Eddie George, at the end of his first year at secondary school in south London. Such descriptions of Mr George's character have stayed with him during his 30-year career at the Bank of England, which culminated yesterday in his appointment as the Bank's

Largely because of his qualities of determination and reliability Mr George has been on an upward path at Threadneedle Street almost from the day he arrived. His ruggedness of character

the occasional setback, such as the controversy over bank supervision after the BCCI affair and Black Wednesday last September, when Britain was forced out of the European exchange rate mechanism. While he is largely known in the financial community as a

"central bankers' banker" hard on inflation, somewhat introverted and more than a little dour - Mr George also has a lighter side to his character which comes out best in private. He is known as a highly entertaining afterdinner speaker in small, intimate gatherings.
Mr Gavin Laird, general sec-

retary of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, who is a member of the

MR RUPERT PENNANT-REA, the new deputy governor of the Bank of England, has been described as "a billiard ball inside a velvet glove", reflecting both his informal, friendly manner and his inner reserves of toughness. He is young by the stan-dards of the deputy-governor-

Bank's court of board of directors, said: "Eddie would never make TV personality of the year. But he has a quiet sense of humour and he's interested

Like Mr John Major, the man who chose him for the new job at the pinnacle of the British establishment, the 54-year-old Mr George had a far from privileged background,

today. One journalist who knows him and the Bank well said yesterday: "I'd describe him as highly motivated and an exceedingly imaginative choice for the job. He'll bring vision and vigour to the musty corridors and he won't be afraid to upset people. He'll

Like the prime minister, Mr George grew up in an unfashionable south-west London suburb. His childhood home was in Carshalton, Surrey, not far from the Beddington Sewage Treatment Works. His

father Alan was a postman.
The young Eddie attended Hackbridge primary school. At the age of 11 he gained a scholarship to the much swankier

ship - his 45th birthday is undoubtedly have his sights on the governorship itself." Although the move to cen-tral banking from his present job as editor of The Economist might seem unexpected. Mr Pennant-Rea has worked at the Bank before. He was there from 1973 to 1977, initially on secondment from the research

> schools. From this point until he left in April 1957 to do two years' national service, Eddie's fees were paid for by Surrey County Council. After national service in the

> Dulwich College, one of

Britain's best-known public

army - during which he learned Russian, a language in George studied economics at department of the then GMWU municipal workers union. When he left the Bank he was chosen by Mrs Sarah Hogg, the Economist's eco-

nomics editor, as her assistant.

Mrs Hogg has since become head of the prime minister's policy review staff at Downing Street. Emmanuel College Cambridge. From there he went straight to the Bank, starting out in the economics department. He

Mr Major, who worked closely with Mr George during his spell as chancellor before gained international experibecoming prime minister, ence during a three-year stint admires the new governor's grasp of the mood of financial at the Bank for International Settlements in Basle in the late markets and of the complexities of City regulation.

His appointment confirmed 1960s, before being promoted to the post of assistant director in change of markets in 1980. He that the prime minister did not

was appointed deputy gover-

Among Bank insiders Mr George has a reputation for toughness. One former official of speculation which forced sterling's ejection from the ERM on Black Wednesday. said: "He's very good at han-dling financial markets. That means he has to be a bit devi-

ous. But I have never known

him to tell an outright lie or to

mislead. He doesn't mind peo-

ple disagreeing with, him, unless it turns out they cannot

blame the Bank's technicians

substantiate their views."

Senior Whitehall officials said that Mr George was among those who advocated an earlier rise in interest rates to defend the pound. But in any event Mr Major's judgment was that it would have been impossible to save the pound. Mr George, however, will be disappointed by Mr Major's

refusal to contemplate grant-ing the Bank independence. For his part Mr George has been impressed by Mr Major's careful and detailed approach to policy-making. After dealing with him at the Treasury, he told friends that Mr Major was the "clearest-thinking politi-

Passengers largely concerned about quality of service Big shareholders uneasy at chairman also being chief executive

Customers show no signs of leaving BA

By Michael Skapinker and Gillian Tett

BRITISH AIRWAYS staff might feel angry and humili-ated by the publicity surrounding the Virgin Atlantic "dirty tricks" campaign, but the company's customers show no sign of abandoning the airline. At Heathrow airport yester-

day, Ms Yvonne Kirk, a retail consultant, said: "If you've got a nine or 10-hour flight ahead of you, you're more worried about service than anything else." Ms Kirk, who was waiting to board her club class flight to Japan, said "looking after myself" remained her top priority in choosing flights.

BA staff said they had received no complaints from customers about the events. Ironically, it has been Virgin which has remained most nervous of publicity: airport staff at Gatwick airport yesterday refused to allow Virgin passengers to be interviewed in the airport. According to the airline this was to avoid charges .of . "profiteering" from the

Some BA passengers at Heathrow expressed disappointment with the airline's behaviour but said it would not affect their choice of car-

WHEN British Airways staff at Heathrow airport switched on their computers yesterday, they were greeted with the next twist in the British Airways affair - Lord King's latest statement had been placed on the system and staff were "advised" to read it, Gillian

Tett writes. In spite of the official apology, desk staff in Heathrow remained defiant, insisting that BA was not alone in its aggressive marketing campaigns.

"It's not just us that has done this sort of thing. Other airlines do it too," said Ms Karen Granahan, a BA customer service duty manager, citing two other carriers which she claimed had previously tried to peach BA customers at the airport - a claim echoed by other airline staff throughout the terminal.

club class to Chicago with BA said: "There's been a lot of discussion amongst my colleagues about it. We are all surprised that British Airways would do this." But she added: "I normally fly British Airways, and I don't intend to change."

Even customers of Virgin Atlantic interviewed at Heathrow said the "dirty tricks"

flying BA in future.

Mr Marvin Goodman, an American businessman waiting to board a Virgin flight, said he would continue to fly with BA "whenever convenient". He added: "I wouldn't change my travel plans because of this kind of brou-

Ms Louise McDonald, a transatlantic economy passen-ger with Virgin, said there were still good reasons for flying BA. "All the stories reflect badly on them, but you've got to look at the safety record. Although I might now be hesitant about British Airways. their safety record is excellent.'

Travel companies booking flights for corporate clients said they had no evidence that disaffected customers were preparing to abandon BA. So great is the airline's power in the travel business, however, that some felt they should say even that anonymously. A manager with one large

business travel chain said: "We're uncomfortable talking about it. BA is a very big busi-ness partner of ours and we also have strong business links with Virgin." He added: "This story might have caused a lot of controversy, but the bottom



Lord King, British Airways chairman (foreground), and Sir Colin Marshall, the chief executive, aboard a long-haul BA flight

line is that BA have a very loval customer base that they've developed over many years. It's bad publicity for them, but whether it will result in any downturn in their business I very much doubt."

Mr Alan Coles, vice-president of business travel operations at American Express, said companies would hesitate before changing airlines. "A lot of our

This is the text of BA's code of

business, with our customers

business conduct:

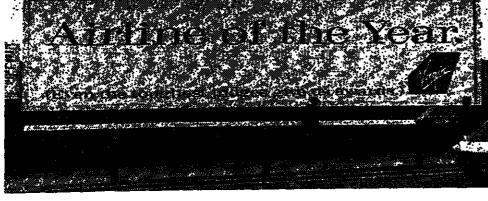
customers have corporate policies with particular airlines." He added, however, that he had seen no evidence of companies wanting to abandon BA. "We haven't had a single instance of a customer saying:

Til fly anyone but BA'." Mr Coles said American that was usually because of rumours that the carrier was in financial difficulty. "But we've had none of that with BA at all."

A.T. Mays, the travel agents chain, said BA's Air Miles scheme for frequent flyers was another reason why customers were remaining loyal.

said: "It's sad that we have two major airlines airing their differences publicly, but at the end of the day both of them have a good following. It's the fare level and the quality of service that determine what airline people fly. I don't think a businessman changes airlines because of a skirmish in

Express had had experience in the courts and the newspathe past of business travellers Mr Bruce Shepherd, the comwanting to change airlines, but pany's retail sales director, Honesty 'not just telling truth'



BRITISH AIRWAYS has decided to "foreshorten by a few days" certain of its advertising campaigns in the UK, Gary Mead writes. Fifty poster sites in central London priced on the open market in the region of 250,000 and booked for BA - have become

available for two weeks and Virgin's advertising agency - Woollams Moira Gaskin O'Malley - has snapped them up for about £5,000. In place of BA's "The world's favourite airline" poster there are two Virgin posters, one of

US flying public unperturbed

IF MR Richard Branson and his Virgin Atlantic airline have won a moral battle against British Airways' "dirty tricks" campaign, the US flying public and media have taken little notice, Laurie Morse in New

While the story is a drama of corporate sabotage and discovery, the US popular press has

airline industry] is cut-throat," said one Manhattan travel bro-ker. "This doesn't surprise any barely noticed the tiff. US business newspapers reported Virgin's January 11 court victory straight, with no moralising, and barely noted

BA's second apology this week. Travel agents in New York said there was no sign of mass defections from BA in an exhibition of moral outrage. choosing an airline. "My clients all know it [the

which is pictured above.

colleagues will continue to

Not only is it not a surprise, other travel agents added, the court battle is largely irrelevant to travellers, who care more about price and service than moral rectitude when General standards:

Compliance: Comply with all THE success of British Airways is dependent on the quality of the decisions and the behaviour of individuals at all business. levels throughout the organisation. The code has been develindividuals with whom we have a business relationship in oped to provide guidance and assistance to both managers and staff in their dealings with manner. all those with whom we do

and suppliers, and with each Adherence to the principles will help ensure that our reputation and success that has been built up over the years through the dedicated hard work of you and your

Judgment and discretion will need to be exercised in applying the principles where, at first sight, they appear to be at variance with local custom and practice or commercial com-

It is not the intent of the code to anticipate and provide a framework of governing values and advice on how to proceed when making difficult decisions, namely to establish the norms of business behaviour throughout the company.

the laws that regulate and apply to the company, its systems and the conduct of its Fairness: Treat all groups and

a fair, open and respectful Integrity: Show respect for the individual, treating each in a

consistent way and honouring commitments made. Openness: Share and declare information on personal and corporate conflicts of interest (political, financial, relationship) including the offer or

acceptance of gifts or hospitality of significant value. Seek guidance and where appropriate confirmation from a higher authority before acting. Honesty: This goes beyond simply telling the truth to ensuring that any misrepresentation is quickly corrected. Do not allow people to be misled. Where there are valid reasons for withholding information, be clear about the motives and

Fair competition: Ensure comparisons drawn with competitors and working partners are

if possible explain why are

endo. Competition should be based on the quality value and integrity of British Airways' service and products. Determination: Demonstrate a

ment to achieving the optimum outcome even in adver-Responsiveness: Recognise changes in the business envi-

sense of purpose and commit-

ronment and use a creative flexible style to respond to **Enablement: Provide sufficient** guidance to enable individuals

to act upon their own initiative to solve problems and grow in Conformity: Promote corporate values and competitive edge

through the established performance systems of performance and appraisal. Through employing these practices and behaviours, staff

• Use British Airways' stated goals and objectives as guidance, using your values and judgment to interpret against the principles of this code. Treat others as you would like to be treated. Be prepared to solicit views

would be appropriate before

Discuss difficult decisions with those whose values and judgment you respect. Use company process to earn Ask whether you would feel

comfortable explaining your decision or behaviour to your boss, your family or the media. • Be prepared to challenge if

you believe others are acting in an unethical way. Create the climate and opportunities for people to voice genuinely held concerns about behaviour or decisions that they perceive to be unprofessional or inappro-

 Do not tolerate any form of retribution against those who do speak up. Protect individuals' careers and anonymity if necessary. Encourage an environment of learning from mistakes and mutual trust in each others' motives and judgments.

• Treat the assets and property of British Airways and its customers and its suppliers with the same respect as you would your own. Apart from tangible assets this would include company information as well as the name, image and reputation of British Airways.

Marshall 'might quit' if curbed

By Norma Cohen

SIR Colin Marshall, chief executive of British Airways and heir-apparent as chairman, is likely to resign from the company if he is not allowed to hold both posts, institutional British Airways

shareholders have been told. In recent private conversations with non-executive directors, including Sir Michael Angus, big shareholders have emphasised their long-standing unease about boards which allow a single individual to hold both posts, contrary to recommendations of the Cad-

bury report. Shareholders have said that in light of the Virgin Airlines "dirty tricks" affair, that unease has increased.

"We talked to Michael Angus and he told us Colin Marshall wouldn't hang around if he couldn't be chairman as well," one shareholder

said. Shareholders said that because they had been impressed with Sir Colin's management of British Airways, they were unwilling to press for action which would

result in his resignation. "They have appointed a managing director and that is supposed to reassure us that the proper checks and balances are in place," one institutional investor noted.

Meanwhile, some shareholders said they are still not satisfied that British Airways had dealt with the matter fully. "I feel they haven't tried too hard to get to the bottom of noted that BA's solicitors had conducted a previous investigation into dirty tricks allegations a year ago and found

nothing. "What was the quantity of wrongdoing, what was the number of people involved? Was it just in the UK or was it Japan and the US as well?", a shareholder said.

Shareholders said their concern was that if BA failed to react forcefully and publicly, it could be vulnerable to adverse commercial circumstances. "If any of the competitive US airlines start saying we have anti-competitive practices, it could be trouble," said one shareholder.

However, institutions said they had no desire to see any resignations among the members of the board. Moreover, confidence has been holstered by personal assurances from Sir Michael Angus that steps

Transport officials defend BR sell-off plan

By Richard Tomkins, Transport Correspondent

"A BUREAUCRATIC nightmare" is how Mr Brian Wilson, a Labour transport spokesman, described the bill for the privatisation of British Rail, published yesterday.

Department of Transport officials rejected the accusation, pointing out that the bill's 158 pages left it looking relatively flimsy next to the 119-page tome that paved the way for the privatisation of the water industry in 1989. Even so, there is little doubt-

ing the complexity of the government's proposals. The chosen method of privatisation introduces three new quangos - Railtrack, which will own the tracks; a Rail Regulator to act as a watchdog, and a Franchise Director to franchise out the passenger hostility from would-be franservices - and provides for a network of relationships between these and the privatesector train operators entering the rail market.

As envisaged in the white paper published last July, the effect of the railways bill will be to split British Rail into

Railtrack will own the tracks, and the other part will run the trains. The freight operations will be sold and the passenger services will be fran-In addition, the railway

tracks will in principle be open to any private-sector operators wanting to run new freight or passenger train services in competition with existing ones. However, the government has shown signs of retreating from this commitment in the face of

Some idea of the government's motivation for privatising the railways can be gleaned from the preamble to the bill. It says subsidies will go on being paid to support lossmaking train services even after privatisation, so there will be no significant cuts in public spending in the short

But it goes on to say: "It is, however, anticipated that private-sector operation should, over time, allow railway services to be provided at lower cost to the Exchequer than would otherwise be the case". The implication is that the private sector will be rather more efficient at operating trains than British Rail.

The preamble also reveals that the rail regulator's office they need to operate a service.

will employ up to 100 staff and cost up to £5m a year to run, while the franchising director's office will employ up to 175 staff and cost up to £10m a The bill itself provides for

the setting-up of the rail regulator, the franchising director and the rail users' consultative committees - the new rail pas-sengers' watchdogs - before going into the detail of how rail operators will be regulated. Companies wanting to run a train, station or maintenance depot will have to apply for a licence, it says, and anyone wanting to object to the application will have the right to do

There are also tough rules to make sure that would-be train operators get access to all the tracks, stations and depots

Every agreement between the power to fine operators train operators and facility owners will have to be notified to the regulator for approval. together with any subsequent The regulator will be able to

facilities to other train operators if they do not do so will-Much of the rest of the bill is concerned with the technicalities of translating the ideas contained in last year's white

force companies to open their

paper into law, but some new information emerges. For example: • One clause provides for franchisees to take control of the tracks in the franchise area as well as the trains if the fran-

chising authority thinks it appropriate. • The rail regulator and the franchising director will have who breach the conditions of their licences or of their fran-

 including British Rail, London Underground or local authorities - will be excluded from becoming franchisees, but there is no mention in the bill of public-sector bodies from other countries. Consumer protection will be given added force by extending

the Fair Trading Act to the

· All UK public-sector bodies

railways. • In times of national emergency the secretary of state will be able to re-assume control of the railways, directing the use of railway facilities as he or she wishes.

The bill is expected to get its second reading early next month and to win Royal assent

Anglo-Irish talks resume next month

By Tim Coone

THE DATE of the next Angle-Irish conference meeting has been fixed for early next month, following "informal talks" in Dublin yesterday between Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary. and Mr Dick Spring, Ireland's

new foreign minister. Yesterday's meeting was the first between the two governments since November, when it was agreed to suspend further efforts to renew the political talks process in Northern Ireland until after the general elections in the Republic.

Mr Spring and Sir Patrick said their first meeting had been "very worthwhile and satisfactory" and that they had

covered all the main areas necessary "to get the talks process working well and to bring it to a successful conclusion". It is expected that at least two Anglo-Irish conference meetings will be necessary to prepare the way for a renewed series of talks involving the Northern Ireland political par-

The previous "three-strand" talks ended inconclusively last year, with the two Unionist parties accusing Dublin of hav-ing been too inflexible over the Republic's territorial claim to the province.

Sir Patrick said yesterday: "Informal consultations should be the first stage and then we'll see where that takes

FINANCIAL TIMES

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Saturday January 23 1993

Europe's hairshirt

ON THURSDAY this week, Mr Theo Waigel, finance minister of Europe's most powerful country, went as a supplicant to Frankfurt. His purpose was to plead with the high priests of monetary stability in their temple. There, he offered his "solidarity part" and begged in return for lower interest rates. But the priests of monetary stability respond to such questions as cryptically as those who once served at Delphi. The millions who also want what Mr Walgel sought can only wait and pray.

Mr Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundes bank's vice-president, has insisted that the Bundesbank will cut interest rates to the extent it thinks this justifiable. Who can doubt him? The Bundesbank is powerful, but it is not arbitrary. The question is when it will believe further interest rates cuts are justified. Will this be as soon and will they then go as far as the German government hopes, not to mention the French, the Irish, the Danish and all the rest?

The questions are urgent, notwithstanding the insistence of European finance ministers at their meeting this week that the crisis in the ERM is past. Immediate pressure for realignment of the currencies that have been most under pressure - the Irish punt. the Danish krone and the French franc - did dwindle, as the D-Mark weakened against the dollar. But ministers are declaring

the battle over too soon. They are over-optimistic because they forget the ever gloomier prospects for EC economic growth. Only this week the European Commission cut its forecast for EC economic growth from 1992 to 1993 to 0.8 per cent. Not-withstanding this reduction in the forecast, which is not likely to be the last, Mr Henning Christopherson, the commissioner in charge of economics, insisted that recent speculation against the ERM had been unwarranted. He was wrong. It is the EC's poor growth prospects which makes the speculation not merely warranted, but

Inevitable

The UK has been expected to be among the better performing EC economies this year. So indeed it should be. But none of the news released this week shows it will be. Seasonally adjusted unemployment was up 61,000 in the month output was down 1/2 per cent in the three months to November as against the previous three months; and seasonally adjusted retail sales fell in December. Fortunately, since what is now known as White Wednesday, the government is no longer nailed to the Bundesbank's cross. Lower interest rates are inevitable. The rigidity.

government should bow to that reality sooner rather than later.

Meanwhile, the EC's so-called fast lane countries are going into reverse. Even the French economy, the most virtuous of all, is widely forecast to achieve little growth this year. Unless the Bundesbank lowers interest rates not only soon, which seems possible, but by at least 2 percentage points, which seems much less likely, France may experience a

fifth successive year of sub-

potential economic growth in 1994.

Uncomfortable

French inflation is down to a 36-year annual low of 2 per cent. If policy persists, it could fall below zero, but unemployment would also continue to rise. Fortunately for the French government, both the actual one and the one likely to be in office after the general election, 72 per cent of the French people appears to favour the franc fort policy. That would seem to make continued wearing of the monetary hair shirt conceivable.

however uncomfortable. It is Germany, battling with the aftermath of unification, that is the source of Europe's problems. The German economics ministry now forecasts that the west German economy will shrink 1 per cent this year. It is almost certainly too optimistic, largely because Bundesbank economists do not share the government's

The answer to all the government's problems is supposed to be the solidarity pact, whose fiscal component has been offered by Mr Waigel on the Bundesbank's altar. Yet economists at the DIW in Ber-lin argued only this week that the pact would fail to pull the east German economy out of recession. They must be right, when engineering workers are expecting, like lemmings, to rush over the cliff of a 26 per cent wage increase this March

That Germany is so far failing to cope with the huge challenge of unification is obvious. What is not so obvious is why most of the rest of the EC thinks it wise to be overwhelmed too. Unification is, it turns out, precisely the kind of real economic shock that requires substantial changes in real exchange rates. Since the EC refused - and, for the most part, continues to refuse - to make those changes through the nomiпан експан accept inflation in Germany and deflation everywhere else instead.

Germany may yet make a big success of unification. Most of the EC may yet move smoothly to economic and monetary union. Neither now looks very likely. The EC is paying a high price for its attachment to exchange rate t has been a long time coming. For years, on and off, successive Conservative governments have been talking about the possibility of privatising British Rail. Yesterday, at last, the bill that will make this possible appeared. But just what does railway privatisation mean?

The passenger could be forgiven for being confused. The government white paper, New Opportunities for

white paper, New Opportunities for the Railways, that came out last July was subtitled The Privatisation of British Rail. But as we entered the new year, the prime minister described the process as "semi-pri-vatisation" and Mr John MacGregor, the transport secretary, fol-lowed up by developing a predilection for the word "commercialisation". Ministers denied gleeful Labour accusations of a U-turn: but amid the complexity of the government's proposals, it is not sur-prising that the public's under-standing of what is really going to happen to its railways is at a low

One thing that is plain about the privatisation of BR is that it will be like no other Britain has yet seen. Previous privatisations have typically involved the disposal of industries and utilities to the private sec-tor through trade sales or stock market flotations. But this never looked feasible with BR. Loss-making on a big scale - last year it lost nearly £1bn - it would have been impossible to value, still less to sell. Who would have wanted to buy it?

Having wrestled with a number of options for breaking up BR into smaller units, the government still kept coming up against the same problem. Whichever way you split the railway, there was no getting rid of the losses - not, at least, without big cuts in services, large fare rises, or both. So, instead, it switched tack and looked at ways of involving the private sector through the contracting out of train operations, just as if they were hos-pital cleaning or rubbish collection

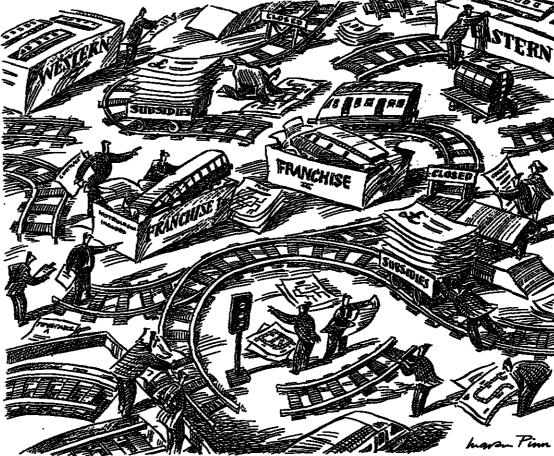
And that, in essence, is what this privatisation amounts to. True, BR's freight operations are to be sold off - the government sees no reason to protect loss-making freight, and the profit-making operations can fend for themselves. But that is all that is going to be

So far as the rest of British Rail is concerned, it is to be split into two. One part, to be named Railtrack. will retain the tracks and infrastructure, and start charging for their use. The other will continue to operate the passenger trains, but these services will gradually be contracted out to the private sector on the basis of which company is prepared to pay the highest price for the franchise - or rather, since the majority of services are unprofitable, on the basis of which company

requires the smallest subsidy. There is just one more wrinkle. Obsessed with the idea of maximising competition, and embittered by the experience of privatisations such as British Gas, where competition has been slow to emerge, the government is also requiring open access to the tracks. In other words. any company wanting to introduce enger service in competition with existing ones will theoretically be able to do so though this is unlikely to take place on any widespread scale, given the shortage of vacant slots on BR's

busiest routes. Put in these terms, privatisation may not sound such a troubling prospect. And yet the government's plans have been attacked from almost every quarter - by politiThe privatisation of British Rail poses unique problems and is fraught with difficulty, writes **Richard Tomkins**

We're in for a bumpy ride



cians, consumer groups, trade unions, professional institutions, the public transport lobby and the very companies the government is

hoping will participate.

Roughly speaking, the criticisms fall into two main categories. Those in the first category say that the government's plans just will not work. So do those in the second category; but they go on to suggest that, even if the plans do work, the result will be to passengers' disad-

The criticisms in the first category have been better rehearsed than those in the second. To take a few examples:

• The government's insistence on open access will kill off private-sector interest in franchising because franchisees' most profitable services will be vulnerable to attack by cherry-picking marauders. • Dividing the responsibility for

track and trains makes no sense because it will leave too high a proportion of the train operator's costs unaer the control of state-owned Railtrack, which will have no incentive to act efficiently. • The government's insistence

that Railtrack must make a positive return on its assets will result in its imposing track charges so high as to price traffic off the railways and on to the roads.

 The complex bureaucracy involved in the relationship

regulator, the franchising authority, Railtrack, the BR residuary body. the Health and Safety Commission and the private-sector train opera-

tors will prove impossibly unwieldy. The first two of these have already been answered, at least in part. Earlier this week the government made a significant concession by acknowledging that it would have to deny open access in some franchise areas to persuade the private sector to get involved. It also

Passengers appear to have genuine grounds for concern about the government's plans, which may result in fare increases

said it was prepared to franchise the tracks as well as the trains on some routes.

regime are more difficult to answer because the government has yet to publish its proposals for track charges. As for the bureaucracy: well, that is just one of the unfortunate side-effects of trying to comto be seen how offputting it proves in practice.

But never mind the danger that than those already being operated

privatisation will never happen, BR's passengers could say: the worst that can happen is that BR will simply go on running the trains. What we want to know is what will happen if privatisation does happen. How will we be affected? Will our trains still run? Will fares soar?

Passengers appear to have genuine grounds for concern about the government's plans - many of them centring on the possible consequences of the fragmentation of the national passenger railway into a patchwork of independently operated franchises.

A simple example is the national railway timetable. Admittedly, this is not one of Britain's best-selling publications: most railway passengers travel to and fro on a single route and have no need to know what other services BR offers. Nevertheless, it is useful for the minority of passengers who travel more widely, and looks a probable casualty of the government's privatisa-

As for railway services, most should be safe from closure. Franchisees will still be receiving subsidies to operate loss-making services, so companies will not be able to drop them willy-nilly. When awardbine a competitive railway with a ing franchises, the franchising safe and reliable one, and it remains authority will specify minimum levels and standards of services, and

by_BR, at least initially. Even so, some rural services could come under scrutiny. Take,

for example, the line from Inverness to Wick in the far north of Scotland a 161-mile railway carrying only three trains daily each way. With Railtrack charging the whole of the costs of operating the line to such a small amount of traffic, the subsi-dies required by the franchisee to run the service would be enormous. That would call into question the case for keeping the service going. But perhaps the biggest potential hazard from the passenger's point of view is the threat of fare increases. Superficially, this should not be an issue: the government has said that, on subsidised services (the large majority), maximum fare (the large majority), maximum fare levels will be pegged by the franchising authority when awarding the franchises, and on the few profit-making services — mainly Inter-City — tough competition from cars, coaches and aircraft should have force down But again it is the keep fares down. But again, it is the loss of the so-called network bene-

y way of illustration. imagine a return trip from Southend-on-Sea in Essex to Glasgow. At present, the traveller can go to Southend station and book a discounted "saver" return ticket for the complete journey for £76. But after privatisation, when the London Tilbury & Southend line and the London-Glasgow line are operated by different franchisees, the traveller's cheapest option is likely to be the purchase of two separate tickets: a discounted return from Southend to London and a discounted return from London to Glasgow. At today's fare levels, that would cost £14.80 for the Southend-London leg and £69 for the London-Glasgow leg, totalling 183.80 - about 10 per cent more than the price of a through ticket.

fits that poses the greatest threat.

The government's response to this sort of criticism is that it has guaranteed the preservation of through ticketing. And so it has: but it has not guaranteed the preservation of discounted through ticketing, nor has it guaranteed the validity between franchisees of other discount schemes such as the senior citizen's railcard. Since 80 per cent of all tickets sold on BR are discounted in one way or another, the possible consequences for average fare levels could be

far-reaching. Given the scale of the potential pitfalls, it is tempting to ask why the government should bother to take on a privatisation as troublesome as that of British Rail. After all, it can't be for the money: the proceeds will be next to nothing. And it will do nothing to advance the cause of popular capitalism, since no shares are being

Then again, consider the alternative: doing nothing. It is highly unlikely that the government will ever have enough money to provide railway passengers with the invest-ment levels they would like. And even if it could, the railway would continue to be run by a management which seems incapable of delivering a standard of service that

At the end of the day, it all comes down to the government's claim that every privatisation so far has brought substantial benefits to the consumer. To an extent, one would have to acknowledge that to be true. But then again, the privatisation of BR is not like any other. It els and standards of services, and these seem likely to be no worse ride for the government and passen-

MAN IN THE NEWS: Thomas 'Mack' McLarty

Ultimate old school chum

president of the United States, as Mack McLarty did on Thursday morning: "In many ways, Bill Clinton is the same person he was in kindergarten." Nor be quick enough to realise that he should not give the impression that the Oval Office is now inhabited by a five-year-old. "That's not to suggest he hasn't matured and grown wiser," was his next sentence.

Washington this week was filled to the rafters with FOBs (friends of Bill), all members of the extraordinary number of overlapping networks the Clintons have maintained over the years. But Thomas F McLarty, known as Mack, is the only BOF (Bill's oldest friend). Both 46, they go all the way back to Miss Mary's kindergarten in Hope, Arkansas. Now William J Clinton. still called Bill, has turned to Mack to help him in Washington as the White House chief of staff.

There is, potentially, no more sensitive job in the capital. Exactly how it is performed depends on the wishes and needs of the president, and each has had his different requirements. But even a breezy look at recent history shows how much the chief of staff can make or break a president.

Probably the most successful in the past 20 years was James Baker in Ronald Reagan's first term who ran a tight but not leak-proof ship. Above all, he protected his president from situations in which he might be caught off guard.

Another Baker, Howard, the former senator from Tennessee, also did well as a damage control operator when Mr Reagan's final years turned sour. Dick Cheney, later a congressman from Wyoming and the just-departed defence secretary, Ford in a difficult period.

Better remembered are the failures: HR Haldeman, who pandered to all Richard Nixon's darker instincts and paid for it with a prison term: Hamilton Jordan, whose contempt for the Washington establishment did no favours to an outsider president, Jimmy Carter: and two of President Bush's chiefs of staff, John Sununu, fiercely ideological and personally abrasive, and Sam Skinner, who never realised until too late that his boss was in deep political doo-doo.
His friendship with his president

apart, McLarty comes to Washing-ton probably the least known of the new Clinton team. The son of a successful car dealer and University of Arkansas graduate, he embarked on a political career early and, at 23, became the youngest ever state assemblyman. But his father's failing health brought him to the fam-ily firm, where he did well enough developing its leasing business that, still only 30, he was elected to the board of Arkla, the natural gas utility. Seven years later he was its president, replacing Sheffleld Nelson, who was to become Mr Clinton's arch political rival, and two years on its chairman and CEO.

He inherited a company in crisis, afflicted by declining oil prices, mild winters, and expensive long-term pipeline contracts. By the mid-80s Arkla's debt far exceeded its net worth. By 1989, its stock price had dropped 70 per cent and its credit rating was dubious. It is still not out of the woods even after an extensive disposal of assets, and McLarty's chairmanship is not with-

out its critics. One acquisition, of a Houston natural gas company which may still be liable for the debts of a local



savings and loan it owned before being taken over, leaves Arkla with a potentially high and still disputed charge. But McLarty gets general credit in the industry for keeping it afloat, and it was still in the charts as the 47th-largest utility in the most recent 1991 rankings of service companies by the Fortune 500.

But his record as a businessman is not why he was the first person named by Mr Clinton to a Washing-

The explanation lies in Arkansas. which, to repeat the ultimate cliché, really is a small state where everybody who is anybody knows every-body else. Though out of elective state politics for more than 20 years, the chairman of one of its biggest companies is a de facto intimate of every politician, not least its governor. Sometimes this has presented problems for McLarty, as in 1990 when he remained conspicuously neutral in the governor's race between Clinton and Sheffield Nel-

son. But this never harmed his rela-

a discreet intimate throughout last year's campaign and a big fund-

All the Arkansas references are glowing, from friend and foe alike, mies. He is universally described as methodical, intelligent and, above all, gracious. His television performances in the new limelight this week certainly showed his quiet charm. They also disclosed a canny skill at saying nothing in the nicest

He has talked a little, however, does not see himself as a gatekeeper or high profile operator, which means he may have been seen more on TV in the first two days of this

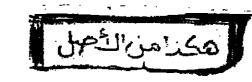
The key, as he told the Washington Post recently, is: "I really believe that Bill and I are not going to have any trouble talking straight to each other. We've done that for years and it flows very smoothly. He wants it. That was one of the real elements he felt was needed." Mrs Clinton is getting an office in

the political west wing of the White House rather than the social east wing, and will be a power in devel-oping healthcare policy. McLarty's view is: "Hillary's a good friend. too, someone I really greatly admire." He even discreetly allowed that there were some differences between the approaches of the president and his influential wife. The linear style of thinking [reaching a decision and pushing ahead with the next item on the agendal might be more Hillary's style and my

style." So Mack McLarty begins his capital odyssey with a clean sheet and the complete trust of the man who is president, but as a relative innocent in a city with many more snakes than ladders - one of which Zoe Baird failed to climb this week. He also has a fear of flying, but, then, there is much to do without leaving the ground in Washington.

Jurek Martin





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ing the positive could alter the

ing the positive could alter the fact that the strong hopes of a turnaround — symbolised by the rush of shoppers to the sales immediately after Christmas — had given way to the familiar pattern of mixed and usually depressing signals that has characterized the IVI

has characterised the UK econ-

ically patchy. That this applies

within sectors as well as across

the economy was highlighted by Tuesday's distributive

trades survey from the Confederation of British Industry,

which found that large retail-

ers did well in December while

smaller companies employing

But Britain's recession has

been so long and so severe that

special factors may be making

recent trends particularly diffi-

Many economists have been

puzzled about the recent

strength of demand for big

ticket items such as cars or

durable household goods at a time of depressed demand for

consumer credit, generally weak consumer confidence and

One explanation is that peo-

ple in work have been avoiding

new borrowing commitments

after the traumas caused by

high interest rates in the late

1980s and using their savines

to buy carefully selected bar-

mist at Kleinwort Benson, the City investment bank, suggests

that some of the newly unem-

But Mr Leo Doyle, UK econo-

dising unemployment

gains at a discount

fewer than 100 did poorly.

cult to interpret.

Economic recoveries are typ-

omy for the past two years.

By yesterday – after news of falling retail sales in December, declining industrial output in November and the sharp jump in unemployment to just under 3m - it was beginning to look as if accident prone Mr Lamont had fallen back into the trap of seeing green shoots

of recovery where none exists.
The truth is, as ever, more complicated. To set against this week's gloomy data, the Treasury could point to strong car sales in December, robust growth in recent months of cash and bank notes in circulation, and a rebound in business confidence since sterling's departure from the European exchange rate mechanism on Black Wednesday.

Whitehall also took comfort from reports of increased house sales in December, although house prices as measured by the Halifax and Nationwide building societies continued to fall last month. Not all mortgage payers have yet benefited from the sharp 3 percentage point fall in bank base rates to 7 per cent since September because some building societies, which adjust their mortgage rates annually, have still to respond to the cut in the cost of borrowing. This could mean that a further stimulus to demand is in the pipeline, holding out the prospect of some future growth.

But no amount of accentuat-

₹ he Central Statistical

Office does not publish a National Generosity

Guide. There is therefore no league table of philanthropy in

which to measure this week's dona-

itable Foundation.

trumpets.

he good, the bad, the uncertain

Hopes of recovery in the UK economy have given way to a familiar picture of mixed economic indicators, says **Peter Norman**

UK economy: conflicting signals



ployed may also be helping to support this spending. His theory is that they are using redundancy payments and running down savings with a view to obtaining means-tested benefits such as the monthly mortgage interest payments.

The Department of Social Security has rules to prevent such behaviour. But that does not mean the practice does not take place. Furthermore, some large purchases such as the ement of a company car with a new family car would conform with DSS rules. There are also doubts about

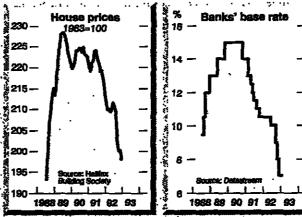
1988 89 90 91 92 93 how much reliance to place on business confidence indicators. Over the past month, surveys from the Institute of Directors, Dun & Bradstreet and the British Chambers of Commerce have pointed to a recovery in business confidence in the final quarter of last year. Sterling's devaluation and the interest rate cuts have gone some way to offsetting the

% Business confidence

% balance of companies

expecting improved turnover in the next 12 months, less those

gloom felt by business during the September currency crisis. But it is a moot point how far such increases in confidence reflect improved business conditions. Confidence



surveys ask about the future, looking ahead a quarter in the case of Dun & Bradstreet and 12 months in the case of the chambers of commerce.

According to Mr Neil Johnson, director-general of the Engineering Employers Feder-ation, businessmen may be anticipating when they respond to surveys. "People want to think the recovery is here," he says. "Many mem-bers are receptive to the idea that we may have the fundamentals in place to come out of recession. But they are not yet seeing recovery in terms of

orders or cheques in the post." If true, such indicators are clearly a fragile base for hopes of recovery, which is one rea-son why December's sharply higher unemployment caused

such concern The official government figures came immediately after the British Chambers of Commerce reported that both the manufacturing and service industries expected to continue shedding labour in the first three months of this year. According to Mr Christopher

downside risk for the economy which could adversely influence sentiment more than any optimism deriving from increased exports following

sterling's devaluation. Even before Thursday, economists such as Mr Sudhir Junankar of the CBI, were warning that sentiment was in the balance and that there was no reason to expect the economy to turn up before the spring. The past week's statistics have increased fears that rising unemployment in the months ahead will chill these limited hopes and could trigger a downward spiral of falling con-fidence, reduced demand and still higher unemployment.

The stage has therefore been set for an intensified debate about the future direction of economic policy in the seven and a half weeks to the Budget on March 16. Already, many City economists and members of the Treasury's recently constituted panel of seven independent economists have been calling for interest rate cuts to boost growth.

One factor that could influence the debate is the obvious disenchantment of Mr John Major, the prime minister, with the ERM. With Britain set to stay outside the ERM for a year at least, some of the government's advisers in the Bank of England and the Treasury may be inclined to cast envious eyes across the Atlantic at the Stewart-Smith, the BCC president, the prospect of rising lower interest rates appear to

have triggered a recovery with out sparking inflation.
Advocates of lower UK inter est rates argue that there is little risk of activating the tra-ditional spiral of rising costs

and wages because higher unemployment is exerting downward pressure on pay. According to UBS Phillips & Drew, the City investment house pay settlements in the UK are currently averaging 3.25 per cent.

On the other hand, the Bank will be advising the govern-ment that Britain cannot risk pushing short-term rates down to US-type levels of about 3 per cent for fear of causing a sharp fall in sterling which would boost inflation through higher imported goods' prices.

There is a growing mood in the City that 5 per cent base rates are needed to boost the economy. But any speculation about an early and substantial cut in rates would seem to be premature.

The government may want to wait for another month's economic data, the Bank of England's first quarterly assessment of UK inflationary pressures, which is due to be published next month, and the budget itself. Before this week's bad news,

Mr Lamont insisted that he had only limited room for manoeuvre if the government was to keep within its target range for underlying inflation of 1 to per cent during the life of this parliament. Having made much of his dogged struggle to bring inflation down from unlikely that the week's developments will have persuaded him to change his mind.

Alan Pike looks at the successors to the Victorian philanthropists

Charity begins in the boardroom

tion by David Sainsbury of £200m worth of shares to the Gatsby Char-Not all donations like the Sainsrency speculation.

bury shares become public know-ledge through their declaration to the Stock Exchange or publication in trust accounts. Some benefactors adhere strictly to the biblical injunction to avoid announcing their good deeds with a flourish of

By all standards, however, the Sainsbury £200m is breathtaking for a single donation: it is at least four or five times the annual income from all sources of many large household name charities, such as the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the Spastics Society. The figure is £11.5m more than

the combined expenditure on fundraising of Britain's 400 biggest charities during 1991. It eclipses the amounts raised by the most high-profile national broadcast appeals - in 1991 the most success-ful, the BBC's Children in Need campaign, produced £26.8m.

It even cuts down to size the £32m given by financier George Soros in December to aid organisations in Bosnia-Hercegovina, family charitable trusts. It was set believed to be the largest single up by David Sainsbury in 1967 and, donation by an individual to a humanitarian cause, and derived from the money he made from cur-Charitable activity by successful

business figures, of course, is not new. Most Victorian industrial cities have libraries, universities, art galleries, housing or hospitals that originated from the contributions of local industrialists.

Philanthropy was closer to the ground in those days, when indus-trialists lived in the towns and cities they endowed and had their factories there. One of the present difficulties with efforts to generate business support for deprived urban areas is that most companies now have their head offices in London, and senior directors do not have the same strong links with provincial communities as they did century as

But the spirit of philanthropic employers like Joseph Rowntree continues in charitable trusts bearing their names today, while the establishment of trusts by more recent business figures continues. Gatsby is one of several Sainsbury

even before his injection of the £200m worth of shares this week, had become one of Britain's largest grant-making trusts. It supports health and social welfare projects, technical education, industrial and economic programmes, scientific research and development of the third world.

Support by British companies remains modest in relation to the charity sector's £16bn total annual income. Last year, 48 companies gave more than £1m each in cash or in kind to charity. Far more of it was in kind - staff secondments, free use of office space and equip-ment — than in cash, with only 22 companies making financial donations of £1m or more.

This is no indication of how much individual directors give out sity launched its Campaign for of their own pockets. The government's Gift Aid Sci tax advantages on one-off donations in excess of £400, and the average individual gift is just over £2.000.

There are, however, much bigger gifts than this awaiting collection by charities, if they know how to



Sainsbury: a breathtaking single

solicit them. Since Oxford Univer-Oxford to strengthen its finances in £340m target. Although the £237m contains income from sources such as research funds, it also includes 24 donations to the campaign of more than £1m each.

The university does not simply telephone wealthy people and ask if

TOP UK FUND-RAISING CHARITIES National Trust Oxfam Royal National Lifeboat Institution Research Fund Cancer Research 40.2 Campaign Save the Children Fund Salvation Army

they can spare £1m. Researchers work carefully on the business background of potential donors and est to their companies and the university - the going rate for the permanent endowment of a profes-

British Red Cross Soc

Source: Cherities Aid Foundation

Help the Aged

sorship is £1.7m. As well as providing an example of carefully planned and targeted fund-raising, Oxford's campaign

also highlights the issues at the heart of an increasingly anxious debate about the proper function of Some dons were apprehensive about the campaign, because they believed it implied acceptance of the view that universities need not be adequately supported from public funds. Charity managers are even more apprehensive, as universities, trust hospitals and other public sector institutions increasingly compete with them for limited funds.

Envious outsiders say the Oxford campaign has been helped by the university's ancient, establishment image - corporate donors fre-quently shy away from unpopular

or controversial causes. A survey by the Charities Aid Foundation, one of the main sources of information on the voluntary sector, shows that educarate donors - receiving 35 per cent of total cash donations - followed by medicine and health. Civil rights organisations do least well. coming below animal welfare to pick up only 0.08 per cent of corporate financial support - a total

of just £84,000 last year.

There are, however, some interesting attempts to redress the hal-ance. In 1985 J Paul Getty II, the millionaire US citizen who lives in Britain, set up a trust with £20m, as one of his many charitable activities. The policy of the J Paul Getty Charitable Trust is to support unpopular causes that would otherwise have difficulty finding finance. Drug and alcohol projects, the mentally ill and handicapped ex-offenders and Aids victims have

been among the beneficiaries.

The trust funds so many inter esting things that adjectives to describe them become a bit redundant," enthuses the Directory of Social Change, the voluntary sector specialist publisher, in its Guide to the Major Trusts, published this

"The new thoughts about prisons give more opportunities to encour age imaginative schemes," says the Getty trust in its annual report. "Hard-pressed estates with high unemployment and poverty can be revolutionised by dedicated people...There is also concern about the number of very young women

A trust such as Getty's, at a time when public-sector support for voluntary organisation working is such fields is being cut, shows that there are true contemporary ssors to the Victorian philan

two garnishes and sauce along-side. Finally, 16 mouths began

Inside the kitchen the inter

national character of the con-

test was obvious. The Spanish

chef made a tortilla to enclose

his garnish while the

extremely calm German pro-

duced very classy potato cakes

and cabbage dumplings. The Italian, despite a bandaged fin-

ger, made ravioli of hare

mousse wrapped in cabbage

while the Japanese opened a

box of wonderful high-tech

to open and close.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Number One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL Fax 071 873 5938. Letters transmitted should be clearly typed and not hand written. Please set fax for finest resolution

Welcome criticism of leases that cause pain and expense

From Mr Peter Cormack. Sir, 'The Bank of England's criticism of the structure of English commercial leases is more than welcome, but indeed some decades too late ("Commercial lease provisions criticised by Bank". January 21).

Upward only rent reviews, and the legal jargon in which lengthy leases are couched, have proved to be a blank cheque for both agents and solicitors for many years past, while rents are reviewed and

From Mr Peter Newman

Fiver is a great idea.

"festivities".

Sir, The FT Lunch for a

If lunch was "only for

wimps" in the 1980s - then

lunch in the 1990s must be

only for skimps! However, I do

believe that there are deeper

social implications to be drawn

from the scheme than simply a

creative way of filling empty covers after the Christmas

Why are more than 90 per cent of the restaurants in the

From Mr Sirgay Sanger.

Sir, David Spanler, in his article "Britain joins in a game once deemed a sin" (January 9), omits the central point about expanding the availability of gambling. It is, that the

more people who gamble, and

the greater the frequency, the

more casualties occur from

this activity. There is unques-

tioned evidence that the inci-

dence of compulsive gambling

is directly related to states and

provinces where it is intro-

duced. That a government

would promote such an activ-

From Mr Sirgay Sanger.

argued and lease addenda are prepared, both nearly always at the expense and pain of the tenant.

Surely the time has come for England to learn very quickly from its younger overseas cousins where commercial leases consist of a four-page preprinted form (blank spaces to be filled in) written in readily understandable plain layman's English. Commercial leases can be for any agreed period but usually three years,

Lunch for a fiver feeds southern 'skimps'

rier failen to such an extent

that we now need to subsidise

our starving brothers in the

Or is it simply a case that

restaurants in the provinces

have been slow to catch on to a

southern entrepreneurs are

Before angry restaurateurs

write in claiming to be "on the ball". I should point out that

it is usually possible to obtain

a reasonable lunch for under

ity is no different from a gov-ernment promoting the drink-ing of alcohol or the smoking

Furthermore, it has also

been shown that the people

who wager are the ones most vulnerable - single males on

the fringe of society, minori-

ties, late adolescents and

young adults. And, still fur-

ther, that gambling is a form of

regressive taxation on this

group.
It is not responsible journal-

ism for you to have omitted

reference to the many epidemi-

good idea? In which case.

still alive and kicking!

Casualties of gambling must not be ignored

of cigarettes.

south?

071 and 081 telephone areas? | a fiver in most parts of Brit-Has the great north/south bar-lain, but...come on lads, free

with renewals thereafter at agreed market rentals for whatever extension period is agreed between the landlord and tenant. UK developers, landlords, agents and solicitors have had it too good for too long milking the business community. The time is ripe for commercial property tenants to say "enough is enough"! Peter Cormack.

publicity is worth something!

lunch costing \$2.50, and get on

Gecko, where are you now?

ological and sociological studies found in the Journal of

Gambling Behavior. It goes without saying that any government which fosters such

"risky" activity without gener-

ous provision for researching

the human damage and offer

ing treatment, is not a govern-

ment of the people.

National Council on

Problem Gambling,

69 East S9th Street,

Sirgay Sanger. president and chairman,

Peter Newman,

Advew, Whitehall,

School Lane,

Nr Northwich,

Cheshire CW8 1PF

Cleary Court. Church Street East,

Maternity leave that makes sense

From Ms Christine Gowdridge. Sir, The National Audit Office report published this week (Errors found in sick-pay scheme, January 20) showed the problems employers are having with a complicated scheme. Almost one in three of the cases of statutory mater-nity pay examined was inaccu-

Unfortunately, it is going to get more complicated. The Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Bill introduces 14 weeks maternity leave

for all women.

Add this to the existing right to return to work up to 29 weeks after childbirth, 18 I feel that this important weeks pay, six weeks at 90 per cent of income for women fulsocial issue needs to be addressed. In the meantime, I filling the service requirement and 18 weeks at a flat rate for shall sweep the crumbs off my desk, having had a working the rest, and you can begin to see how excessively complex it is likely to become. with the business! Gordon

A far better fit with existing provision would be achieved by granting all women 18, not 14, weeks leave. Before you shout "It'll cost too much", just think There would be no additional

recruitment or training costs if you already have a temporary replacement. Women will be returning when they and their babies are fitter. Contractual rights would be extended for the additional four weeks, but good employers are doing this The Maternity Alliance will

be working hard as the Bill goes through parliament to convince employers and the organisations representing them that 18 weeks maternity leave makes sense for mothers. babies and employers. Would you like to help? Christine Gowdridge, The Maternity Alliance, 15 Britannia Street, London WC1X 9JP

Kitchen scales tip to France **Nicholas Lander** travels to Paris

eremy Cooper had envis-aged spending Christmas plucking turkeys in his father's butcher shop in Huddersfield, Yorkshire. Instead, he flew to Paris to represent Britain in the 26th Prix Culinaire Pierre Taittinger, one of the world's most prestigious culinary contests.

At age 24, Cooper, is chef saucier, head of the meat sec-tion, at London's Inter-Continental Hotel. For four years he worked at Claridge's under executive chef, Marjan Lesnik, who won the Prix Taittinger in 1981 but was disqualified because of an unauthorised use of parsley leaves as garnish. This year he is one of the 16

international judges.

The Prix Taittinger is the culinary world's equivalent of the Tschaikovsky Piano Competition in Moscow.

Aithough there are similar competitions held around the world, this one attracts the most international interest, with almost 500 entrants this year from America, Germany, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Britain, Japan, Switzerland, and of course, France. It also offers a rare insight into the highly conservative world of French gastronomy. Most of those fortunate

enough to eat both in and outside France would agree that France's long-held domination of the culinary world is seri-ously under threat. Today, talented and inspired chefs are to be found all over the world. French chefs, however, have dominated the competition. Indeed the Prix Taittinger has only been won twice by chefs from outside France - in 1984 by a Japanese and in 1986 by an Indonesian working at the

Hilton, Amsterdam. A strong flavour of French culinary conservatism was evident in the British semi-finals when the eight contestants had to prepare a classic 19th cen-tury dish, quenelles of pike with a sauce amoricaine. This dish was well known when rivers were flush with pike and lobsters for the sauce were cheap (the sauce was created in 1860); but today it rarely appears on menus. That may

for the Prix Culinaire, one of the world's top cookery contests

have been one reason that the British favourite. Bruno Loubet, a highly innovative chef from the Inn on the Park, finished behind Jeremy

Cooper arrived in Paris with three words - gibier a poil (furred game) - ringing in his ears. Two weeks earlier this. and nothing else, had been divulged as the subject of the four-hour finals.

At 7.30pm on the night

before the cook-offs the 12 contestants, of whom three were French, and 16 members of the jury met for cocktails. At the party, the chairman of the judges produced four envelopes and asked Cooper, as the youngest, to pick one. To his and his competitors' consterna-tion he chose the envelope marked "hare" (the other three were rabbit, wild boar and venison). All the chefs were con-cerned because hare is a particularly difficult animal to cook well even if time is unlimited. Unlike other game, hare is not hung but requires marinating to soften the flavours; the chefs had to skin the animal, too. The most anxious was Japan's Minoru Sonehara who had never seen a hare before.

Over dinner the chefs were given a list of rather prosaic ingredients: carrots, red cabbage and cauliflower - nothing as exotic as a wild mushroom or a small truffle. At Upm it was up to bed where, with their telephones unplugged, the chefs spent the night racking their brains for inspiration and sleep.

The next morning, they took a short coach trip to the nearby Ecole Superieure de Cuisine Française, where the cooking would take place. The chels then drew numbers for the sequence in which they would cook and at 7.20 met their commis chefs, their short-term personal assistants. The commis were students who spoke little English, another



Game cook: Jeremy Cooper,

big advantage for the French competitors.

The competition began at 7.30, which seemed designed to benefit the judges rather than the chefs. To enable them to taste in sequence each chef started to cook at 15 minute intervals and the poor Dutch entrant, who drew number 12, had to sit glumly until 10.15 before he could get to his

Two top professional chefs and two professors of the culinary arts supervised the cooking. In theory, they could deduct points but rather than being quick to criticise they were inclined to help and

The tasting judges each had a maximum of 50 points in two categories – presentation and taste. From 11.30, and at 15 minute intervals, they were presented with a silver tray, borne by student waiters and waitresses sworn to silence, and placed in the middle of the room for the judges to appreciate its design. The tray was then passed to the foreman of the jury who cut two slices of meat per judge and placed the

knives, suitable for sushi, and cooked with chopsticks, too. The Dutch chef made a hare sausage and enthralled the French judges with a Japanese machine for making "vegetable But all this was in vain because of the anachronistic finale to the competition. This stipulated that the chefs' creations must be presented on a huge silver tray, an accessory

no longer used in good restau-rants. Today, chefs prefer to serve their dishes on a plate designed by themselves. The winning dish certainly filled the tray. Entitled "saddle of hare Pojarski" and based on recipe that was a great favourite with Tsar Nicholas I it resembled a chess board with pyramid tops of cabbage and "castles" made of red cab bage filled with a hare mousse It was too pretty - food to admire, not to eat.

But it impressed the judges And on a podium filled with some of France's top culinary luminaries (Pierre Troisgros Emile Jung, Michel GueArard and Jacques Lameloise) Joël Robuchon, president of the iury, announced the winner -France's Michel Izard, who recently became chef des cuisines at the Dodin Bouffant restaurant in Paris. His compatriot, Eric Briffard, was second. and Spain's Jose Arriero Bar-

roso, third.

The experience of being in such company will have done a modest, talented young Yorkshireman nothing but good. Whether French gastronomy will ever benefit from such international gatherings is. however, another matter



COMPANY NEWS: UK

price at which it is sold.

digging ball clay out of the

Bovey Basin near Newton

Abbot since 1710. The heavy

sticky clay, which once pro-

duced tobacco pipes, is used

worldwide to manufacture

ceramics such as sanitary

ware, wall and floor tiles and

that, under takeover rules, the

sale "is likely to lead to an

offer for the entire issued share

The three are Ceramics Hold-

ings, controlled by the Leban-ese Gargour family, Sibelco, a privately-owned Belgian-based producer of silica sand for the

glass industry, and Quar-

capital of the company."

ducer of silica sand.

table ware.

GPA restructure sees debt halving in 3 years

Banking Editor

GPA's debt restructuring proposals, which were sent to its 130 banks yesterday, envisage that its \$5.5bn (£3.6bn) debt will be cut by half over the next three years.

The ambitious target is dependent on the Irish aircraft leasing company regaining access to capital markets, so that it can raise off-balance sheet finance to replace bank debt and unsecured traded

It has already instructed Lehman Brothers, the US investment bank, to lead manage an issue of securitised aircraft leases, called Alps.

Mr Maurice Foley, GPA's deputy chairman, said he hoped the Alps issue would take place "well before end of the year". However, bankers believe the Alps issue will be impossible until investors are confident that GPA can over-come its financial difficulties and that will take many

In addition, GPA is planning to raise about \$200m of equity

vertible securities. The rights document will be sent to shareholders when banks agree to the proposed debt reschedul-

The detailed documents sent to banks yesterday, which are an inch thick in total, also said that GPA's commitments to buy aircraft from manufacturers has been reduced from \$12bn at the beginning of last year to less than \$4bn.

More importantly, the group believes that it has cut orders for airplanes in 1993 and 1994 from \$5bn to about \$2.5bn.

However, a banker stressed that the group had only reached agreement in principle with manufacturers to cancel or change the contracts. They were not legally binding. The banker added that the

group had yet to reach any sort of agreement with one manufacturer, McDonnell Douglas, though agreements have been reached with Boeing, Fokker and Airbus Industrie. Mr Foley said the failure to reach agreement with McDonnell was not

The deadline for reaching

Capital to pay £18m for **Midlands**

CAPITAL, Britain's largest restructuring process was independent radio group, yesamong the most complicated in terday announced a major expansion into regional broadcasting with a £17.7m agreed takeover of Midlands Radio.

Midlands, which operates BRMB in Birmingham and six smaller stations, said Capital had made a cash offer of 130p per share which had been accepted by shareholders holding 51.7 per cent.

As an alternative, Midlands' shareholders can take shares in the London music station on the basis of one new share for 181p cash.

The takeover will give Capital its first wholly-owned station outside London, although it already has stakes in several other radio companies. Mr John Parkinson, who

will remain Midlands' chairman and is expected to become a non-executive director of Capital, said the company would flourish as part of the

new group. Both companies have seen a sharp increase in their share price since takeover discussions began last November. Capital's interest prompted a jump of almost 15 per cent in Midlands' share price, which peaked at 119p before being suspended yesterday at

Since announcing its results in November, Capital's shares have rose from 132p, peaking at 183p earlier this month, to

aging director, said the companies were in a strong financial position following a year in which both saw profits fall.

ber 30 1992, while Capital's pre-tax profits declined 9 per in the same period. Media analysts said yester-

would benefit from an expec ted upswing in advertising Andrew Taylor on possible new ownership at Watts Blake Bearne 280-YEAR-old Devon combined holdings in this

Concert party fires speculation

way."
"It is tough, however, for business, a world leader in its field, looks other shareholders, many of set to lose its independence, which have said they wish us and there appears little that to remain independent. It will the directors or majority of shareholders will be able to do be very difficult to mount a defence if, as seems likely, the to influence the outcome or sale of such a large block of shares triggers a bid at an Watts Blake Bearne has been

unsatisfactory price." The company can only hope that the minimum price, which has not been disclosed, is not met; an acceptable white knight can be found to buy the stake; or that the shareholding can be placed with a number of investors rather than sold to a single purchaser.

The ownership of the com-A placing, however, would pany has been thrown into be unlikely to raise as much question by the decision of three shareholders to sell their cash as a sale to a single buyer which might be prepared combined stake of 45.2 per to pay a premium to provide a spring-board for a take-The companies, which are acting as a concert party, say

Sibelco and Quarzwerke could themselves bid for the company. They have a preemption right, should a recommended purchaser offer less than 433p a share, to buy Ceramics' shares at the same

t 433p the business would be valued at just zwerke, a private German pro-£90m compared with Mr John Pike, Watts Blake shareholders funds currently of about £50m or 240p a share. Bearne managing director, said: "The three companies are Watts Blake Bearne's share price closed last night at 443p. acting within their rights. Mr Ian Hilliker, analyst at They announced a concert NatWest Securities, said a bidparty agreement to pursue der could afford to pay up to 530p a share or £110m without common interests in 1991 which allows them to sell their

Watts Blake Beame



earnings dilution based on forecast pre-tax profits of £7.2m

This is a high quality company which absolutely dominates its niche market", he

Watts Blake Bearne, which generates 85 per cent of its sales outside the UK, estimates that it provides clay for 40 per cent of the European sanitary ware market, a third of the US market and half of the Far Bast market. It also claims to supply a quarter of the European and US floor tile market. It owns extensive clay reserves in Germany and in

the US where in 1989 it bought United Clays the country's second biggest ball clay prod-Profits, which had grown steadily since the family-owned

business was floated in 1964,

have faltered recently due to

tion industry. The group estimates that two-thirds of sales are triggered by new building. repair, maintenance or improvement work.

The loss of an important customer in the US (since replaced), compounded problems and pre-tax profits slipped to £5.67m in 1991 compared with a peak of £8.47m in 1989.

NatWest expects profits to have bounced back to £6.8m last year helped by recent acquisitions and a recovery in the US business.

The company should benefit from a recovery in the US and UK construction industries. particularly housebuilding, although the continental European ceramics market is likely to fall further. It seems probable, however, that new owners will reap the benefits from any

Brent Walker chief resigns

By Maggle Urry

MR KEN SCOBIE, chief executive of Brent Walker, the heavily indebted property and leisure group, and the banks which in effect control the group, appear to have fallen out. Mr Scoble resigned yesterday and is understood to have agreed a compensation pack-

Brent Walker is now expected to appoint a new chief executive to replace Mr Scobie. Sir Keith Bright has been brought in to chair the group, which last March completed a £1.6bn refinancing. Lord Kindersley, the previous chairman, left after last year's AGM and the group has been

looking for a new head since. Mr Alan Clements, a non-executive director, has also resigned from the group. He indicated last summer that he

wanted to leave. As well as their loans to Brent Walker, the banks own 54 per cent of the group's shares following the refinancing. One banker said. "the banks call all the shots".

Under the refinancing agreement. Brent Walker was to have made disposals in order to cut debt. However, there appears to have been concern among the banks at the rate of progress being made.

Brent Walker shares, which had been in the doldrums, have risen in recent days and yesterday closed up 3p at 16p. Sir Keith, 61, is chairman of Electrocomponents. From 1982 to 1988 he was chairman and chief executive of London Transport, and before that was chief executive of Huntley and

Glaxo's Zantac to

est market after the US.

has signed an agreement with Sankyo and Taisho Pharmaceuticals of Japan, to co-develop Zantac, the world's bestselling drug. It is expected to file an appli-

Nippon Glaxo, of which Glaxo holds 50 per cent, the balance being privately held,

sales at the end of 1994, about the same time as its main competitors, Yamanouchi which markets Samotidine, and SmithKline Beecham which

The Japanese over-the-

try appears increasingly keen to move drugs from prescription to over-the-counter status, in an effort to keep down state drug expenditure.

out development and eventually marketing, according to Mr Nigel Barnes, pharmaceuti-

go OTC in Japan By Paul Abrahams sells Tagamet.

GLAXO, Europe's largest pharmaceuticals group, is planning to switch Zantac, its bestselling drug, from prescription to over-the-counter status in Japan, the world's second larg-

cation for over-the-counter

Zantac generated prescription sales of about £180m in Japan during the last financial year to June, according to ana-

slipped from mid-January to

the end of February or early

March One banker said the

which he had ever been

defer to late 1996 approxi-mately \$1bn of debt repay-

ments due between the end of

GPA has \$3.5bn of bank debt

on its balance sheet plus

another \$500m off, some of it in

joint ventures which have to

This debt is divided into

more than 20 different facili-tles, provided by 130 banks. A

group of regional Japanese

banks, which are said to

shocked by GPA's difficulties, provided a "club loan" of \$150m, all of which was due for

In addition about \$2bn has been borrowed in the form of

unsecured traded debt, of

which \$500m is in the form of

publicly traded, fully regis-

tered bonds. In the next three

years \$1.25bn of this falls due for repayment.

repayment in a year.

be unscrambled.

last year and September 30.

The banks are being asked to

involved

counter gastro-intestinal market is worth about Y57bn (£300m) a year. Taisho is the market leader with Sankyo The Japanese welfare minis-

The move is part of Glaxo's general strategy of licensing

112p.

close at 178p yesterday. Welcoming the takeover, Mr Richard Eyre, Capital's man-

Midlands announced an £8,000 fall in pre-tax profits to £679,000 in the year to Septemcent, from £9.48m to £8.84m,

day the enlarged company

as part of 'orderly disposal' plan By Peggy Hollinger had been purchased by institu-

tions at 90p each. CONTROL Securities, the Control acquired 24.6 per cent of Stylo in 1988 for £16.2m, brewing, hotels and property company which has been valuing the shares at 325p. The involved in prolonged refinancpurchase ended the shoe company's three-year battle to fend ing talks, yesterday announced the sale of its 26 per cent stake off a hostile bid from property group British Land. in Stylo, the Bradford-based shoe retailer, for £4.5m.

Yesterday's sale marks the The company refused to beginning of Control's "orderly identify the purchaser. Howdisposal programme" as cited ever, traders said the shares by chairman Mr Sydney Robin

in a letter to shareholders ear- had been written down to a lier this month. The programme forms part of the business plan required for a successful conclusion to refinancing talks begun in June. The group's shares have been suspended at 16%p for 15

Wescol losses

increase 60%

Wescol Group, the USM-quoted

into the red in the year to July

31 as pre-tax losses rose 60 per

Turnover dipped from

of TMV Aluminium Systems.

its curtain walling subsid-

Its sheeting and cladding

Wescol made a £506,000

exceptional provision for the

closure of TMV while interest

charges increased from

£419,000 to £476,000. Losses

per share were shown as 21.60

against 11.3p, and there is no

business was closed in 1991.

cent to £2.49m (£1.55m).

to £2.5m

By Matthew Curtin

The company said yesterday it would use the proceeds to pay off some of its £259m debt. Since 1988, the investment

Control Securities sells 26% of Stylo

value of £4.7m. Gross dividends received from the stake amounted to £591,198. Dividend payments of £166,166 received in October 1992 would be included in the year to March 31, the company said.

Control Securities recently reported a pre-tax loss of £196.2m, against a deficit of £3.3m last time.

See Market Report

Rights and sale plan from Stakis next week

By James Buxton

STAKIS, the hotels, nursing home and casino group, is expected to announce both a rights issue and the sale of its nursing home division when it presents its results next Thurs-

The company, where Sir Lewis Robertson took over as rescue chairman in early 1991, is believed to have returned to around break-even before tax in the year to September 30 1992 against a loss of £47.4m. However, it still has about £200m of debt owed to 21 banks. A plan to sell its casinos had to be abandoned when Stakis falled to achieve a suitable price.

Stakis has rationalised the management of its hotel

operations and sold peripheral leisure activities under Mr

However, it still needs to reduce debt. Ashbourne Homes, its nursing home subsidiary, operates 18 nursing homes profitably, but also has 19 sites for new homes which would cost about £50m to

Stakis should be able to reveal an agreement to sell Ashbourne Homes next week. ted to announce a rights issue under which shareholders share for either three or four existing shares. Stakis's market capitalisation is about £105m so the rights issue could raise up to £35m.

Margins boost First Maryland

pre-tax profits from \$75.1m to expenses. 892.5m (£60.8m) after a U.S Dei cent rise in fourth quarter earnings to \$24.1m (\$23.9m),

The bank's return on aver

writes John Gapper. The bank said its earnings performance reflected cent (16.11 per cent). improved net interest margins,

The company is also expec would be offered one new remain a member of Liffe,

FIRST MARYLAND Bancorp, higher levels of non-interest vice president, said the low the US subsidiary of Allied income, lower provisions for rise in fourth quarter earnings Irish Bank, yesterday possible credit losses and care-announced a 23 per cent rise in ful management of non-interest

> age assets for the fourth quarter fell slightly to 1.04 per cent (1.23 per cent) and its return on average equity fell to 13.95 per Mr Brian King, FMB senior per cent.

rise in fourth quarter earnings reflected the fact that the bank's loan portfolio had fallen by 8.5 per cent over the year to \$4,970n from \$5,430n sluggish demand. Shareholders' funds rose to

\$699.4m (\$606.8m). The bank's overall capital ratio is 14 per cent, with Tier 1 capital of 10

£24.7m to £16.3m reflecting the difficult conditions in the construction industry and the group's closure, last May,

Barings exits from Liffe floor trading

BARINGS, the privatelycontrolled UK merchant banking group yesterday pulled out of trading on the floor of the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe), continuing the retrenchment of its operations. Although Barings will

enabling it to clear futures transactions in its own name and on behalf of its clients, it has decided to stop executing trades on the floor of the exchange in order to cut costs. Barings has made 19 traders and desk staff redundant, saying that in future it will place orders through other brokers on the floor of the exchange "This will mean a significant cost saving for us," said a director at Barings yesterday.

In September, Barings announced the decision to shed 108 employees at its securities trading subsidiary, Baring Securities, in order to stem heavy losses.

dividend. Mr Peter Price was appointed chairman yesterday, taking over from caretaker chairman Mr Barry Anysz who replaced Mr John Hicks when he resigned last May.

by "refocusing operations, reducing overheads and secur-ing fresh backing from our bankers". He explained that facilities included a new sixyear £2m loan.

Park Foods

By Gary Mead, **Marketing Correspondent**

reduces loss

to £3.69m

Park Food, which sells Christmas hampers through freelance agents, has reported a lower than expected interim loss, incurring £3.69m pre-tax for the six months ended September 30 1992.

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Mr Peter Johnson, the chairman, was confident, however, that full-year pre-tax profits would show a significant improvement over the £6.89m of 1991-92, after a half-time deficit of £4.39m.

Analysts are forecasting between £8m and £9.2m, increasing to between £9m and £11m in 1993-94. The annual dividend cover of

2.5 times was now felt to be excessive; it would be reduced to two times and therefore, the interim dividend is doubled to

Sales for the half year of continuing businesses came to £9.1m (£8.95m), after the disposal of the drinks and frozen foods divisions which made £6.75m last time. Mr Johnson anticipated continued strong organic growth stemming from the enlarged network of agents (up by some 6 per cent) and an increased average spend by customers of about 10 per cent.

Shield back in black with £0.05m

Palmer foods.

SHIELD GROUP, estate agency and property company, has returned to profit in the six months ended September 30 1992 having wound down its property development and investment activities. Pre-tax profit came to £54,000, but this includes £45.000 of unrealised foreign currency gains. The loss for the comparative period was £1.34m.

Turnover was £948,000 (£5.81m). Losses per share came to 2.7p (17.2p). The directors said that Stickley & Kent (Risk Management Unit) was trading profitably and it was intended to expand this activity this year.

Shield has acquired 1 per cent of the capital of National Home Loans at 1.25p per share and intends to increase its investment should further

Selective Assets net

assets higher The net asset value per share of Selective Assets Trust, the Ivory & Sime international geared investment trust, stood

at 155.95p at the year ended December 31 1992. That compared with 126.2p six months earlier and with 126.49p at the end of 1991. Total income for the year

increased to £3.12m (£2.69m).

Earnings per share improved

to 2.54p (1.4p) and the annual

0.825p to 1.2p.

in £145,532 deficit

Energy, the Europe Firth two years ago end-September.

The directors pointed out that because of the high overdraft the company was now supporting, the interest charge had risen considerably, from

Malvern UK net asset value rises

Malvern UK Index Trust reported net asset value of 124.33p at December 31 against

108.13p a year earlier. Net revenue for 1992 was £1.83m, against £2.2m for the previous 15 months. Earnings per share were 3.77p (4.54p) and a final dividend of 2.07p makes 3.77p (4.5p) for the year.

meeting but directors will be recommending that the trust continue.

Under the trust's articles it

can be wound up at the annual

Europe Energy turns

USM-quoted mining company which reversed in to Moray announced a pre-tax deficit of £145,532 for the six months to

That compared with a loss of

£148,494 last time and came from turnover up by £245,000 to

£11,579 to £53,089. However, they added, October and November 1992 were the first two months in which mining activities produced net profits after all financing and depletion costs.

Mr David Tucker, chairman. said that on the basis of the

dividend is being raised from trust's sustained success he was confident shareholders would back the board. He added they would have another opportunity to consider winding up the trust next year.

Contra-Cyclical net asset value at 35.6p

Contra-Cyclical Investment Trust saw its net asset value per capital share decline from 38.8p to 35.6p over the 12 months to December 31.

Per income share the figure increased from 1p to 3.7p and for the zero dividend preferred share nav improved to 60.7p, against 54.4p. Net revenue for the nine months to the end of December fell to £677,000, compared with £788,000 for the period from

incorporation in February 1991 to December 31 1991. Earnings per income share came out at 8.46p (9.85p). The third interim dividend is maintained at 2.25p.

Acquisitions

boost Norbain Norbain Electronics, USM quoted distributor of closed circuit television and access control equipment for security and surveillance, lifted pre-tax profits from £33.000 to £224.000 in the half year ended October 31 1992, aided by acquisitions. Turnover was £7.62m

(£5.75m). Earnings per share

Mr John Nicol, chairman,

After the end of the period

the company acquired Baxall

said that sales to Continental

Europe were expanding.

were 2.16p (0.33p).

and Peca Electronics for £414,000 cash. Peca was subsequently sold for £49,000, the price at which it was bought.

NEWS DIGEST

Exmoor Dual asset value improves

Net asset value per share of 22.44p at Exmoor Dual Investment Trust at the end of the first quarter to November 30 1992, was a climb back from 6.6p at the end of last August but a long way short of 79.2p reported at the end of Novem-

ber 1991. Per income share, net assets were 61.1p (62.2p) and per zero coupon preference share 168.35p (149p). Pre-tax profit came to £220,779 (£322,272). The directors have declared an

2.5p per income share. Barnings for the period were 1.88p (2.68p) per income share and 0.33p (0.47p) per ordinary

Rubicon boosted by

unchanged interim dividend of

lower interest costs A substantial cut in interest charges enabled Rubicon Group to raise pre-tax profits by 26.5 per cent in the half year ended November 30 1992.

Turnover of the group, which makes storage and handling systems for retailers. moved up 13 per cent to £10.4m (£9.2m), but operating profit showed only a 3 per cent increase including exceptional credits of £99,000 (£77,000). However, after interest costs

of £45,000 (£262,000) the pre-tax

profit came to £1.22m

(£963,000). Earnings per share were 8.2p on nearly 10m shares after reconstruction (55.4p on 1.43m shares), and there is a return to dividends with an interim of

61% surge from Dawson Holdings

Reorganisation of the core divisions and specialised activities at Dawson Holdings, the international journal distributor, is bringing the forecast benefits. and pre-tax profits jumped 61 per cent for the year ended September 30 1992.

accounted for £42.2m (£34.5m), and other European countries £51.3m (£39m), while the contribution from the US was static at £16.3m (£16.4m). The profit worked through at £3m (£1.87m), including £1.5m (£1.41m) from an associate. Earnings per share were 55p

(29.4p) and the dividend is

lifted 2p to 24p, with a final of

Turnover rose 22 per cent to

£109.8m (£89.9m). The UK

Stavert Zigomala

advances 64% Stavert Zigomala, the close company which holds quoted investments and sells furniture, upholstery and carpets, lifted pre-tax profits by 64 per cent in the half year ended September 30.

On turnover ahead to £452,453 (£384,347) the pre-tax result amounted to £38,813. against £23,623. Mr Edward Cooper, chairman, said that on increased turnover the trading

investment income was lower and he did not expect the shortfall to be made good by the year end_ Earnings per share amounted to 9.841p (5.978p).

company produced a much

Losses slightly up at Martin Shelton

Shelton, Martin USM-quoted business calendars, diaries and gifts specialist, reported a pre-tax loss of £144,000 from turnover of £1.68m for the six months to

end-September. That compares with a deficit of £122,000 on sales of £1.63m for the comparable period and with a profit of £302,000 from turnover of \$4.85m for the year to end March 1992. Losses per share came out at 1.88p (1.58p) and the interim dividend is

sis on sales in the latter part of the calendar year. Geared Income

revenue improves Net revenue in the nine months to December 31 at Geared Income Investment Trust improved slightly from £1.3m to £1.34m. Earnings per share were 6.11p, against 5.93p and the third interim dividend

is an unchanged 2p. Net asset value over the 12 months to the end of December fell to 76.15p (88.46p).

smaller loss than last time, but movement in stock remained disappointing. In addition, Mr Price said the group had strengthened its trading base.

LONDON RECENT ISSUES EQUITIES

High Low 105 103 68 52 5104 5104 57 52 2 14

FIXED INTEREST STOCKS Clasing Price £ Patd Renanc Oate +œ High Low RIGHTS OFFERS



Bridon, G.M. Firth, Haemocell Inti. Food, Pittencriett, Stakis, Trio and United Energy, Put in Brent Walker. Double in Haemocell.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS First DealingsLast Dealings Jan. 25 Feb. 12 May 6 Calls in Amstrad, Body Shop. Brent Walker 3rd Pref., Burnfle Last Declarations 3-month call rate indications are shown on page 8.

held at 0.75p. Mr Paul Martin, chairman, said that late ordering by customers was shifting the empha-

WEEK IN THE MARKETS

Price gloom greets coffee talks

ECONOMIC DIARY NEGOTIATORS FROM coffee Carneiro Leao. producing countries gathering in London for a two-week meeting beginning next Mon-day with their consumer coun-TODAY: Mr John Major,

prime minister, leaves on a visit to India (until Jan 28).

MONDAY: Industrial research and development (1991). Provisional estimates cay with their consumer counterparts were given a timely reminder over the past few days of the price of failure in their efforts to secure a price supporting international Coffee of monetary aggegates (December). Major British banking groups' monthly statement (December). CBI industrial trends survey As New York investment funds resumed the heavy selling that had pulled prices back sharply from recent 12-month highs London robusta futures fell more more than \$100 a

(January). Building societies monthly ligures (December). Mr Michael Heseltine, president of the Board of Trade, launches Business in Europe campaign. Mr Helmut Kohl, German Chancellor, begins busides with the communication of the society of the tonne and New York arabica's by more than five cents a lb. London's March position, which three weeks ago stood at \$1,023 a tonne, touched a threelor, begins two-day visit to the Netherlands. TUESDAY: US consumer month low of \$867 a tonne yesterday before rallying to \$902 a tonne, down \$73 on the week. confidence index (January). US Congressional Budget Coffee traders appeared to take little notice of the produc-Office releases its budget deficit projections for fiscal years 1993 and beyond. Slo-vak presidential elections. ers' professions of confidence ahead of the ICA talks, in which they hope for significant

Russian parliamentary hear-

ings provisionally set to

WEDNESDAY: New construction orders (November - pro-

visional). Bricks and cement

production and deliveries

(fourth quarter). Start of

two-day informal meeting of

the social affairs council of

the European Community in

Copenhagen. Annual consul-

tative conference of the 10-

nation Southern African

Development Community

(SADC) in Harare (until Jan 29). Mr Boris Yeltsin, Rus-

sian president, visits India. THURSDAY: Energy trends

(November). Quarterly house purchase finance sta-

tistics (fourth quarter). Bal-

ance of payments current account and overseas trade

figures (December). New

vehicle registrations (December). US GDP (finalthird quarter). Start of six-

day World Economic Forum

in Davos, Switzerland.

attended by politicians and business leaders (to Febru-

ary 3). ECGD annual report.

Mr Major visits Oman on

FRIDAY: Engineering sales

and orders at current and

constant prices (November). US personal income (December); durable goods (December);

way home from India.

begin on Start-2 treaty.

progress towards the agreement of supply management measures to be included in a new pact when the present one expires at the end of September. "There is a lot of determination on our part to get this agreement at least made viable by the end of March," said Mr Marques Porto, head of the Brazilian delegation, as he outlined the biggest producer's position in informal talks with other leading producers on Thursday. "We are prepared to bridge the gap with consumers on some very key issues," said another member of the Brazil-

British General

Among these issues is the consumers' call for "automaticity" - the rolling over of indi-vidual countries' export quotas (which would be subject to periodic adjustment in response to price movements) at the same level from the end

of one coffee year to the begin-ning of the next. Brazil is now prepared to accept this system, but would want it to come into operation only at the end of the second year of a new pact, with that year's quotas being determined at an International Coffee Organisation council meeting at the conclusion of the first year. "It is much too risky to say that the system will work perfectly from the start, which is why we want a council at the end of the first year," Mr Porto explained

Brazil says it is also prepared to consider consumer demands for stock verification by the ICO in exporting countries, but in return it wants consumer commitments on imports from non-member producing countries and re-exports from non-

member consuming members.

The other crucial issue is
"selectivity" – allowing consumers the determine the amounts allotted to different types of coffee within the overall quotas. Brazil and Colombia, the second biggest producer, are reported to have reached a common stance on this, but no details have been

Although coffee traders will clearly be watching the negotiations closely over the coming ian delegation, Mr Valdemar fortnight they see little pros-

Accrued xd adj.

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revealed.

PRICE INDICES

1 Up to 5 years (24) 128-18 +0.13 128.01

2 5-15 years (22) ... 145.49 +0.05 | 145.42

3 Over 15 years (8)...... 150.48 -0.08 150.59

4 kredeemables (6) 171.95 -0.10 171.22

5 All stocks (60) 141.82 +0.06 141.73

6 Up to 5 years (2) 184.12

pect of them giving prices a significant boost. "It will be interesting to see if they can maintain minor progress but it won't really affect the market," one London dealer told the Reuter news agency. "Agreements take a long time to

The most significant price movement at the London Metal Exchange this week was three months lead's dip to an 11-month low of £286 a tonne on

tonnes	
Akuminium	+ 6,250 to 1,617,27
Copper	+3,550 to 314,850
Load	+ 1,475 to 231,525
Nickel	+1.554 to 77.196
Zinc	+ 11,375 to 511,725
Tin	-45 to 15.675

Thursday, in spite of sterling's weakness against the US dollar. The price steadled to £288.75 at yesterday's close, but that was still £5 down on the week. The downtrend was fuelled by the publication on Thursday of a report by the International Lead and Zinc Study Group showing that exports of the metal from the former eastern bloc had nearly tripled last year from 49,000 tonnes in 1991 to 120,000 tonnes. That pushed the western world into a supply surplus of 85,000 tonnes, compared with a deficit of 6,000 tonnes in

"This news is far worse than even pessimistic observers had forecast," commented Mr Nick Moore, analyst at Ord Minnett. part of the Westpac banking group. He said he had cut his forecast of the 1993 average

6.91 8.29 8.58 7.31 8.74 8.96 7.53 9.01 9.09 8.92

cent from the 24 US cents a li he predicted at the end of las

The study group painted a similarly gloomy picture of the zinc supply/demand balance. It said former eastern blocexports had more than doubled in 1992, causing the western world surplus to rise from 86,000 to 238,000 tonnes. Mr Moore cut his forecast for this year's average zinc price by 10 per cent to 54 cents as a result.

Aluminium prices remained weak as LME stocks continued to build up and copper was down in dollar terms, although the pound's fall meant that it showed a small sterling rise.

The strongest LME market was tin, which was pushed steadily higher by technicallyinspired buying until it ran into overhead resistance on Thursday. The three months price fell back \$72.50 yesterday to \$5,992.50 a tonne, up \$87.50 on the week.

Concern about the Middle Eastern situation helped the gold price to rise early in the week, but with fears of further central bank sales continuing to weigh on market sentimen it failed to break through resis tance above \$330 a troy ounce Yesterday the price fell back 80 cents to end \$1.40 up on the week at \$329,25 an ounce.

Platinum staged a substan tial technical rally before run ning into profit-taking yester day. The price was fixed in the afternoon at \$360.50 an ounce, down \$4.40 on the day but \$4.10 up on the week.
Richard Mooney

10.03 15/9 /92 9.72 1 /4 /92 9.72 1 /4 /92 10.28 1 /4 /92 9.82 1 /4 /92 9.76 1 /4 /92 9.96 1 /4 /92 9.96 1 /4 /92 9.96 5 /10/92 9.92 2 /4 /92

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5.80 9 /11/92 8.06 12/11/92 8.34 12/11/92 7.11 11/11/92 6.47 11/11/92 7.35 9 /11/92 7.35 9 /11/92 8.76 11/11/92 8.87 11/11/92

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The Cambridge

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Corporate Japan piles up on auction block Robert Thomson in Tokyo looks at the larger deals it INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES AND FINANCE

being pasted in the

front window of corpo-

close to acquiring a majority

stake in NMB Semiconductor.

a struggling electronics com-

pany, while large stakes

bought in six Japanese retailers by Shuwa, a developer and

speculator, are on the auction

These large deals follow a

sudden increase in merger and

acquisition activity among

smaller distressed companies,

most taken over in purely domestic deals arranged by

their main bank. The trend

offers opportunities to Euro-

pean and US companies, whose

acquisitions in Japan more than doubled last year, and are

At the same time, Japanese

companies' acquisitions abroad

fell 60.7 per cent by value last year, according to Daiwa Secu-

rities, and a market is emerg-

ing for the resale of foreign companies acquired during the heady days of the late 1980s.

Recof International, a Japanese

M&A boutique, estimates that

70 per cent to 80 per cent of foreign M&A deals by Japanese

The present patterns of M&A

activity contrast strikingly

with the rapid international

expansion by Japanese compa-

nies during the late 1980s,

when Tokyo stock prices were

rising and capital raised at

almost zero cost. Executives,

believing that the good times

would last, miscalculated badly

on the long-term cost of invest-

ments both at home and

Ailing companies, hit by fall-

ing profits and higher capital costs, particularly smaller

manufacturers and service

abroad

companies were a failure.

block.

on the rise.

Texas Instruments posts gains in sales and income

in San Francisco

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, the US semiconductor and electronics manufacturer, reported increased revenues and income for the fourth quarter, lifted by record semiconductor sales and orders for defence equipment to replenish systems used in Operation Desert Storm.

Revenues for the fourth quarter were \$1.99bn, compared with \$1.75bn in the same period last year. Higher revenues in semiconductors and defence electronics more than offset a drop in digital products resulting from the sale of TI's multi-user minicomputer systems and service operations to Hewlett-Packard.

Net income for the quarter was \$78m, or 80 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$85m or \$1.18 in the fourth quarter of 1991, after net charges of \$55m.

French issue

bond market

The Ecu bond auction will

mark the first substantial

issue of Ecu bonds since Den-mark's rejection of the Maas-

tricht treaty on June 2, which

threw the Ecu bond market

into confusion and cast doubts

over European economic and

monetary union. France, which has been a

keen supporter of European

economic and monetary union,

has traditionally been one of

the most significant issuers of

Ecu bonds. France last issued

Ecu bonds in April 1992, apart

from some limited issuance

Mr John Hall, international

economist at Swiss Bank Cor-

poration, described the deci-

sion as "very significant and

very important for the Ecu

bond market as it shows that

He pointed out that 10-year

Ecu bond yields have fallen

from their peak of about 220

basis points over 10-year Ger-

man government bond yields,

Ten-year Ecu bonds yield 72

basis points more than French

government bonds so it is

more expensive for the French

treasury to fund its horrowing requirement in Ecu than in

to around 107 basis points.

issuance has come back".

intended for repo purposes.

lifts Ecu

By Sara Webb

stock on Monday.

For the year, revenues grew about 10 per cent to \$7.44bn from \$6.78bn in 1991. Increased semiconductor revenues, across all product lines, were the largest contributor to this

Net income was \$247m. or \$2.50, compared with a net loss of \$409m or \$5.40 in 1991 after net charges of \$240m. Semiconductor revenues rose 16 per cent to \$4.03bn. TI, which is one of the world's leading manufacturers of memory chips, has been moving to diversify its semiconductor operations to include more profitable prod-

"The strategy to increase our mix of differentiated products gained momentum in 1992, with these products now making up more than 40 per cent of Ti's semiconductor revenues. said Mr Jerry Junkins, chairman, president and chief exec-

"We believe we will generate more than half of our semiconductor revenues from this class of products well ahead of our original end-of-the-decade timetable." In the defence sector revenues were \$2bn, an

increase of almost 3 per cent. TI has been taking aggres sive steps to adapt to a smaller defence market, Mr Junkins said. However, the sector grew in 1992 when the company received more than \$500m in orders for equipment to replace systems used in the Iraq war. the company's information technology sector, software revenues grew rapidly last

TI said that it would increase capital expenditures to \$625m from \$429m in 1992 as it was anticipating strong growth in the world semiconductor market this year. Research and development spending would

Hafnia extends bid deadline by a week

By Richard Lapper

HAFNIA, the troubled Danish FRANCE provided an insurer, has extended by a important lift for the Ecu bond week the deadline before which potential bidders can market yesterday with the make offers to buy the group announcement that it plans to auction between Ecu500m and because of the emergence of Ecu700m of a new 10-year new interest.

Credit Lyonnais, the stateowned French bank, yesterday refused to comment on speculation suggesting that it was the new party considering a

Potential bidders have until January 29 to submit their bids. Hafnia said the deadline had been extended to allow interested parties more time to conduct due diligence examina-

Several insurers have expressed interest in buying Hafnia's Danish general insurance and banking business. Skandia of Sweden, Scandinavia's biggest insurer, yesterday confirmed its interest.

Mr Johan Bergenstjarna, Skandia chief of staff, said yesterday that Skandia was one of the companies conducting due diligence at Hafnia. Two Danish companies, ALM Brand and Codan, in which Sun Alliance of the UK has a 65 per cent stake, have expressed an inter-

Two other companies, Tryg Forsikring and Germany's Allianz, Europe's biggest insurer, have been mentioned as possible bidders, although Allianz said yesterday that it had "no £16.4m from £10m. comment whatsoever on such rumours".

Hafnia suspended payments

to its creditors last year, after sustaining heavy losses in its portfolio of investments. The group owns nearly 34 per cent of Baltica, a rival Danish company, and 14.8 per cent of

Mr Steen Parsholt, Hainia executive in charge of selling off the company's activities, told Reuters there had been great bidder interest in taking over the insurer.

Skandia.

Hafnia's UK life insurance operation, the Kendal-based Prolific, was sold late last year to Scottish Provident, the mutual life insurer.

• Transamerica Corporation, the large San Francisco-based insurance and financial services conglomerate and Sedgwick, the London-based insurance broker, are to pump £12m (\$18.24m) into their jointlyowned London market insurance subsidiary, River Thames Insurance.

The cash injection, which is in proportion to the two companies' equity holdings, increases the net worth of River Thames to £26m.

Transamerica and Sedgwick

respectively own 51 per cent and 49 per cent of the group. River Thames will adjust its strategic direction to focus more tightly on specialist and treaty reinsurance business. Pre-tax losses at River Thames amounted to £9.5m in

1992 and £3.6m in 1991, with underwriting losses Premium income increased

to £90.7m in 1992 from £85.4m

Previous

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istress sale notices are businesses, are in need of assistance. Meanwhile, Japanese banks, worried about non-performing loans, are keen to find rate Japan. Nippon Steel is buyers for corporate clients which appear on the verge of

collapse

"Most of the deals you will not hear about," explained Mr Yukio Rimbara, general manager of the strategic business advisory division of Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank. "We don't announce the deals, but every day, we are getting calls and transactions are rising rapidly. We have clients with financial problems, and M&A could be a solution for them."

Distressed Japanese companies tend to turn to traditional contacts before thinking of a foreign purchaser. Japanese managers are aware that staff are uneasy about a loss of job security under foreign owners, while there are fears that foreigners would face more general difficulties in adapting to the local corporate culture.

As a result, the largest increase in foreign acquisi-tions, so-called out-in deals, is in strategic purchases by established US and European companies. Purchasers last year included Ciba-Geigy, Atochem, and Philips, with eight of 43 deals in pharmaceuticals, seven in industrial machinery and chemicals, and six in computers, according to a survey by the corporate finance arm of KPMG Peat Marwick.

About 60 per cent of deals last year were acquisitions of distributors or joint venture partners, and Mr Thomas Lynch, a partner at Peat Marwick, said most involved companies with sales of less than Y5bn (\$39.8m) and fewer than 100 employees: "We haven't seen any really big acquisitions yet by foreign companies in Japan, but you might see them in the future."

NMB Semiconductor could have set that precedent. Before Nippon Steel's move, reports had circulated in the Japanese electronics industry that Intel of the US would acquire the company. Intel Japan says now that it will not hid against Nippon Steel, which has apparently agreed to pay Y30bn for 60 per cent of the chip maker. The NMB case is a typical by-product of the hard economic times. Listed on the over-the-counter market in

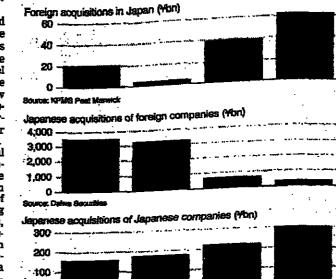
Tokyo, it is still a subsidiary of Minebea, the world's leading maker of miniature bearings, which entered the semiconduc tor market in 1984 as part of an erratic diversification programme that included a door-to-door cosmetics com-pany and a Canadian pig farm. Minebea reported a consoli-dated loss of Y13.6bn in the

year ended September and does not have the resources to keep pumping funds into NMB, which lost Y12.40n last year, expects a Y4bn loss this year, and needs capital investment of about Y100bn over the next five years to stay in the chip Mr Mike Jeremy, electronics

specialist at Baring Securities. said NMB was the "purest play in Japan" for a company with the funds to take advantage of its chip-making facilities. In theory, bidders could include South Korean semiconductor makers such as Samsung, but that deal could prompt outrage in Japan, where Korean companies do not have the prestige of US manufacturers such as

The other large acquisition move this week involved bids

Robert Thomson in Tokyo looks at the larger deals that have intensified M&A activity Mergers and acquisitions in Japan



for a 29 per cent stake in Isetan, the department store chain, owned by Shuwa, the troubled developer. Having bought stakes in six retail groups during the late 1980s. Shuwa is conducting a fire-sale to relieve a crippling debt burden estimated at Y1,000bn.

"When people talked about the M&A boom in the late 1980s, this is not really what they had in mind," an official at a Japanese brokerage said. Instead of expansion abroad, the spate of acquisitions on the negotiating table is an important part of the restructuring of Japanese industry.

The challenge for US or European executives wanting to take advantage of this restructuring is to find a company that fits, but not fatally

wounded through speculation in stocks or property during the late 1980s. Ailing Japanese companies offered to US or European companies tend to be those turned down by its natural domestic partners, who may have scented danger.

Mr Masaharu Yonezawa, a director of Recof International said the ripest opportunities are in the chemicals, pharma-ceuticals, food and computer software industries, but foreign executives must be willing to make a quick decision to take advantage of the environment.

"These out in cases normally take more than a year, but for domestic transactions three months is a normal time frame. Foreign companies have to speed up the decision process," he said.

John Fairfax raises forecast

By Kevin Brown in Sydney

JOHN FAIRFAX Holdings, the Australian newspaper group, which is 15 per cent-owned by Mr Conrad Black's Daily Telegraph group, expects pre-tax profits of A\$105m (US\$72.4m) in the year to June, compared to earlier forecasts of A\$94m. Share option prospectuses

lodged with the Australian Securities Commission, said revenue was expected to be 3 per cent lower than the earlier forecast of A\$782m because of slow economic growth.

Fairfax said the forecast improvement in profit on areas of co-operation reflected reduced costs and lower inter st char The Daily Telegraph, mean-

while, is seeking government approval to lift its stake in to existing papers. Fairfax to 25 per cent.

Southam plans links with Black The Telegraph's industrial

By Bernard Simon in Toronto

SOUTHAM, the Canadian newspaper group in which Mr Conrad Black's Hollinger recently became the largest shareholder, plans to forge closer links with Mr Black's other international publishing investments, The Daily Telegraph in the UK and Australia's Fairfax Holdings. Mr William Ardell, Sou-

tham's chief executive, said yesterday that one alluring aspect of Mr Black's business strategy was that "he sees papers in a global context". No discussions have taken place between the three groups, but Mr Ardell said that he loresaw opportunities to create prod-

relations experience in the UK to deal with long-standing labour problems at its lossmaking Vancouver subsidiary which runs the city's two leading newspapers.

Such co-operation would mirror the pattern set in Mr Black's other international interests. The 200-plus small US news-

papers owned by Hollinger relied heavily on The Daily Telegraph for coverage of the Gulf war in 1991.

The North American edition of the Jerusalem Post, which is also controlled by Mr Black, is printed by a Hollinger subsidiary in New Jersey.

er recently completed a deal to buy 22.6 per cent of Southam is expected to tap in business information ser-

vices and trade publications. In an understanding partially modelled on last year's Hollinger-Telegraph agreement, Mr Black has agreed to several safeguards to prevent

a creeping takeover or a proxy fight for control of Sou-Hollinger will name three representatives to the Southam board, but a majority of board members will be independent of both Southam management

and Hollinger. The outside directors must approve any substantial transaction between the two compa-

Any deal worth more than C\$100m (US\$78.1m) or 10 per talisation must have the assent ucts, including improvements Southam, which publishes 18 of holders of a majority of Soudaily papers and has interests tham shares, excluding Hollinger.

ENI to sell coal production unit

ENTE Nazionale Idrocarburi, the Italian state energy group, has put Agip Coal, its coal production subsidiary, up for sale, Mr Franco Bernabe, the ENI managing director, said yesterday, AP-DJ reports from Milan.

Agip Coal, with a turnover of L550bn (\$369m) in 1992, has mining operations in the US Australia and continental Ецгоре.

The Italian government is moving towards privatisation of ENI and has announced its intention to sell Nuovo Pignone, the mechanical engineering subsidiary

Earlier this month, the government asked ENI to draft a proposal for a stock market listing of its Agip and Snam oil and gas subsidiaries by the end

7.5

WORLD COMMODITIES PRICES

Weekly Price Changes	Latest prices	Change on week	Year ago	High 1992/93	Low 1992/93
Gold per troy oz.	\$329,25	+1.4	\$354.65	\$358.40	\$327.35
Silver Per troy oz	244.55p	+ 5.05	235.90	249.50p	187.58p
Aluminium 99.7% (cash)	\$1196.25	-18.75	\$1249.5	\$1339.0	\$1105.5
Copper Grade A (cash)	£1451.5	+6	£1194	£1561.0	£1125.0
Lead(cash)	£277.5	-6	€282	£383.5	£277,50
Nickel (cash)	\$5795	-12.5	\$7865	\$8195.0	\$5315
Zinc SHG (cash)	\$1057.5	-5	\$1182.5	\$1457.5	\$1019.0
Tin (cash)	\$5935	+90	\$5445	\$7115.0	\$5425.0
Cocoa Futures (May)	£739	+11	£759	£751	2523
Coffee Futures (Mar)	\$904	-71	£566	\$1039	\$676
Sugar (LDP Raw)	\$213.1	+2.5	\$213.4	\$272.6	S193
Barley Futures (Mar)	£133.3	+0.3	£119.5	£138,10	£106.90
Wheat Futures (Mar)	£137.3	-0.1	£127.6	£138.60	£109.85
Cotton Outlook A Index	59.00c	+ 1.45	58.55c	65.90c	52.25c
Wool (64s Super)	390p	+2	411p	480p	364p
Oil (Brent Blend)	\$17.35x	-0.25	\$18.125	\$21.30	\$17.00

London Markets

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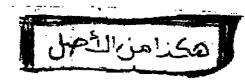
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252.50 242.50	Apr
	May
per tonne):	- Uttio
	SOYA
S/barrel VLow	
9 17.91	Apr Jun
0 17 44	Turno
4 17.58 2 17.71 0 17.84	
7 17.93	FREE
5	Jan
	Feb Mar
\$/tonne	Apr
	Oct BFI
161.75	Turno
161.75 161.75	QRAN
161.75 162.50 163.25	Wheel
105 50	Mar
168.25 1046	May Nov
	Barley
	Mar Jan
\$1,850 a	Turno
S1,850 a between orts Man	Turnos
as avail- otterdam,	PIGS
s firm for	-103
an sup- \$2,250 a	Feb
2,000 clf. pot was	Mar Apr
at \$1,450 cif. Sey-	May
R1 175 a	

	Close	Previous	High/Lo
Jan	926	915	904 890
Mar	904	885	905 867
May Jul	905 889	8 6 5 879	910 877 900 870
Sep	908	890	897 878
Nav	915	902	891 888
ICO Inc	dicator pr Comp. de	(277) lots of toes (US o Bily 55.34 (5)	ents per
POTAT	'0E3 - L	ondon PO	
	Close	Previous	High/La
Apr May	59.0 69.0	61.0 71,0	60.0 58. 70.0
Turnovi	er 107 (10	iots of 20	tonnes.
SOYAL	BEAL - I	onden FO	
	Close	Previous	High/Lo
Apr Jun	153.50 143.50	155.00	153.50 143.50
umov	er 20 (0) I	GLs of 20 to	nnes.
FREIG	HT - Los	des FOX	\$10/
	Close	Previous	High/Lo
Jan .	1280	1265	1280 12
≒gb Mar	1295 1300	1275 1273	1295 12 1300 12
var Vor	1295	12/0	1298 12
Oct	1343	1340	1344 13
Urnov	1270 or 232 (89	1264	
A== 104	S - Lond		
Mad	Close	Previous	High/Lo
		137.85	137.50 1
Vitar Vitay	137.30 139.25	139.75	139.35 1
lov	111.50	111.65	111.50
ariey	Close	Previous	High/Lo
Mar	133.30	133.90	193.80 1
E D	113.90	134.85	113.90
	er; Wheat er lots of	43 (205), Bi 100 Tonnos.	arley 44
Turnov			
urnov	London	FOX (Ca	ah Settle
urnove	London Closs	POX (Ca	
103 -	Close 105.0	Previous 103.5	High/Los 104.0
urnove	Class	Previous	sh Settle High/Lot 104.0 105.5 105.0

	Ciosa		lous	High/Lo		AM Officia	by Amalg Kerbo		en intere
				півілго	<u> </u>	AM UINCIB			
	99.7% purity	_						lly turnove	r 25,13 ų
	1196-96.5 1217.5-18	1196 1218		1217.5/1	213	1191.5-92.5 1213.5-14	1216.5-	17 16	9,560 lots
	de A (£ par	tonne)					Total da	ly turnove	
	1451-62		.5-65.5	1458/146	7.5	1457-57.5			
	1470-71		42.5	1482.5/1	463	1476-76.5	1463-54	15	2,862 lots
Lead (£ per	tonne)						Total de	uily turnov	er 1,832
	277-78	276- 286-		279.5 291/268		279.5-80 289.25-8.75	291-82		0577 Jaka
	266.5-69	- 200	90.0	291/200		208.23-0.13		ily turnov	858 lots
Nickel (\$ per Cash	5790-800	5855	hr	5800/579		5798-97	10120 01	my mrinov	4,362
	5880-65	5920		5920/585		5860-65	5850-55	40,	846 lots
Tin (5 per to	<u>—</u> ппе)						Total de	ally turnow	r 1,140 i
	5930-40	6000				5953-60			
	5990-95	8080		6040/598	1	6013-15	5985-90		71 lots
	i High Grade						Total dei	ly turnove	10,358
	1057-58 1076-76.5	1056	-57 .5-75	1053 1077/107		1053-53.5 1072-72.5	1074-75	- 64	786 lets
LASE Clesing		1014		-9177107	<u> </u>	1012-12-0	(017-10		700 100
SPOT: 1.534	5	3 mon	ths: 1.5	219	6	months: 1.6	123	9 ma	nths: 1.50
	ULLION MA		child)		N	ew Y	ork		
Gold (troy o					_				
	\$ price		E equiv	lent	GOI	D 100 troy	oz.; S/troy		
Close	329.10-329. 329.40-329.					Close	Previous	High/Lov	•
Opening Morning fix	329.40-329.		217.182		Jan	328.6	329.2	329.0	329.0
Afternoon fix	328.75		216.839		Feb	328.6	329.3	329.7	328.5
Day's high Day's low	329.60-329. 328.80-329.				Mar Apr	329.1 329.4	329.8 330.2	0 330.5	0 329.3
	een Gold Le		Rates (/e US\$1	Jun	330.5	331.3	331.5	330.4
month	0.93	6 ma		1,68	Aug Oct	351.6 333.2	332.7 334.1	Ø O	C O
2 months	1.05	12 m		2.04	Dec	334.7	335.6	335.8	334.6
months	1.25				PLA	TINUM 50 to	roy oz; \$/zro	W 07.	
Biliver fix	p/troy az		US cas o	quiv		Close	Previous	High/Low	,
Spot	244.55		371.25		Jan	366.0	365.7	383.9	363.9
months months	248.55 252.20		374.05 377.05		Apr	362.0	361.7	365.0	359.5
2 months	259.60		84.60		Oct	359.4 357.9	358.9 357,4	362.0 359.0	358.5 359.0
					Јал	356.7	358.2	0	339.0
BOLD CÓIN					SILV	ER 6,000 to	oy oz; cent	roy oz.	
	5 price		£ equiv	adent	_	Close	Previous	High/Low	
Krugerrand	329.50-33		218.00-	220.00	Jan	369.5	370.9	0	0
Maple leaf New Soversi	339.10-34 20 79.50-81.1		62.00-54	1.00	Feb	370.0	371.5	369.5	359.5
					Mar May	370.8 373.2	372.3 374.8	375.5 378.0	370.0
TRADED ()	TONS				Jus	375.6	377.2	379.5	372.5 375.0
Aluminism (9.7%) (Calls:		uts	Sep	378.1	379.8	378.5	378.5
Strike price :	Tonne Mar	Jun	Mar	Jun	Dec Jen	382.1 383.1	383.9 384.9	385.0 0	382.0 0
200	29	60	19	27				<u> </u>	
1225	17	46	32	38		Close	OPPER 25,0		
250		34	49	51	1		Previous	High/Low	
Copper (Grad	28 A) (alis		uts	Jan Feb	98.90 99.00	98.50 98.76	98.90 99.00	98.80 99.00
200 250	57	81	30	57	Mar	99.40	99.20	99.55	99.15
250 300	32 16	58 39	54 88	82 113	Арг Мау	99.6G 99.80	99.40 99.60	0 99.90	0 99.60
					Jun	98.90	99.70	99.90 0	6 88720
college .	Mer	Мау	Mar	May	Jul	100.00	89.85	100.20	99.80
50	10	30	58	<u> </u>	Aug	100.10	99.95	5	0
000	3	18	56 98	75 113	Sep	100.20	100.10	100.40	100,15
050	1	11	147	158	CRU		hi) 42,000 l	PS gells \$/8	Marrel
2000 0	Mar	May	Маг	May		Latest	Previous	High/Low	
60	83	98	1	8	Mer	18.88	18.81	18.88	18.74
75	61	78	4	14	Apr	18.98	18.93	19.02	18.88
	41	81	9	22	May	19.07 19.21	19.07 19.20	19.14 19.27	19.00 19.15
					البال	19.31	19.29	19.34	19.24
700 		Apr	Mer	Арт	Aug	19.37	19.38	19,44	19.54
00 Irent Crude	Mar	191			Sep	19.43	19.42	19.46	19.40
700 Trent Crude	50		15	30				18 6*	40.44
700 750	50 25	55	35	30 54	Oct Nov	19.47 19.45	18.47	19.51 19.52	19.45 19.47
700 Frent Crude 700 750 800	50				Oct	19.47		19.51 19.52 19.42	19.45 19.47 19.44

HEAT	THG OIL 4	2,000 US g	alis, cent	علاق کا/ع	_ Cł	nicag	j o		
	Latest	Previous	High/L	OW .	SOY	ABEANS 5	,000 bu min	cents/80th	hueho
Feb	52.00	52.00	52.35	51.70		Close	Previous	High/Lo	
Mar Apr	52.70 53.00	52.61 52.76	52.95 53.05	52.45 52.70	Mar	581/2	583/2		
May	52,75	52.58	52.95	52.60	May	584/6	587/Q	584/0 587/6	580 583
Jun	52.75	52.56	52.80	52.60	Jul	589/2	591/2	592/2	586
Jul	53,10	52.88	53.20	53.05	Aug	591/0	592/6	593/0	590
Aug	54.00	53.56	54.00	54.00	Sep	589/6	591/6	593/4	585
Sep.	55.10	54.76	6	0	Nov	595/0	597/0	598/6	594
Oct	58,10	55.71	56.10	56.10	Jan	602/2	603/6	605/0	601
Nov	56,56	56.58	0	0	Mar	610/0	611/0	0	0
:OC0	A 10 tons	es;\$/tonne	•		SOTA		. 60,000 lbs;		
	Close	Previous	High/Lo	OW .	 Mar	21,46	Previous 21.59	High/Lo	
ar a	503	992	1010	975	May	21.66	21.81	21.67 21.68	21.0 21.0
Aay	1021	1014	1028	997	Jul	21.87	22.00	22.10	21.
ul	1041	1035	1047	1016	Aug	21.92	22.04	22.13	21.0
iep	1087	1057	1060	1060	Sep	21,93	22.05	22.15	21.5
)ec	1098	1088	1094	1068	Oct	21.93	22.02	22.15	21.5
ier	1128	1115	1125	1097	Dec	22.01	22.09	22.20	22
May Iul	1153	1140	114B	1140	Jan		22.17	0	đ
	1170	1167 ,500lbs; cer	1168	1142	SOYA		AL 100 tons;	\$/ton	
-					– – Mar	Close	Previous	High/Lo	
	Close	Previous	High/Lo	7 1	_ May	183.6 183.6	184.1 183.9	184.1	182
ar	82.80	64.25	65.70	62.75	Jud	185.0	186.2	184.0 785.5	183 184
ly	67.70	69.00	70.40	67.60	Aug	185.4	185.7	185.7	185
ŧ	69,60	70.80	72.25	89.55	Sep	186.1	196.4	186.5	188
Þ	71.30	72.50	74.00	71 30	Oct Dec	187.2 188.6	187.4	187.5	167
C	73.90	75.20	76.75	73.90	Jan	189.5	188.8 189.5	189.1	188
er ey	76,85 79.00	78.00 79.00	78.50 0	78.50 0			min; cents/5	- C - Elin humbal	
KQA)	R WORLD	"11" 112,0		_		Close	Previous	High/Lov	
	Close	Previous	High/Lo		- Mar May	218/4 226/4	218/4	218/6	218
ar a					- Jui	233/2	226/4 233/2	226/6	226 232
ir iy	8.45 8.63	8.50 8.68	8.49	8.35	Sep	239/2	239/4	233/4 240/0	239
7	6.73	8.76	8.65	8.61	Dec	245/4	245/6	249/2	245
ì	8.67	8.70	8.73 8.67	8.61	Mar May	252/2	252/4	253/0	252
	8.73	8.77	8.70	8.61 8.70	Dec	257/0 250/0	257/4 248/0	257/0	256
ıy	5.78	8.82	0	0.70	WHEA		min; cents/i	250/0	250/
TTC	XX \$0,000;	cents/lbs				Close	Previous	High/Lo	
	Close	Previous	High/Lo	w	Mar May	387/4	388/2	390/2	386/
ar	62,90	62.83	63.20	62.25	- Jul	359/2 332/6	359/2	361/6	358/
ay	62.83	62.81	69.15	62.45	Sep	335/4	332/2 336/0	335/0	330/ 335/
ď	63,48	63.45	63.65	83.05	Dec	344/0	345/0	337/0 346/8	335/ 344/
	82,12	62.23	62.25	61.85	Mar	349/0	350/4	0	0
C L	61,05 61,65	61.50 62.24	61.25 61.85	61.0 <u>0</u> 51.80	LIVE	ATTLE 40	,000 lbs; cen	ts/lbs	-
ay f	62,35	62.89	0	0		Close	Previous	High/Lov	
	62.85	63.42	<u> </u>		Feb	79.550	78,425	79.675	79.2
AN(₹ WHCE	15,000 lbs;	cents/the		· Apr	78.075 73.975	77.950	78.200	77.6
	Close	Previous	High/Lo		- Aug	73.275 71.625	73.200 71.600	73.450	73.0
					. Oct	72.275	72.150	71.800 73.400	71.4 72.2
	79.75	81.50	81.25	79.20	Dec	72.700	72.500	72.400 72.700	72.5 72.6
y	82.70 85.05	84.50	84.25	82.25	Feb	79.550	79.425	79 875	79.2
P	85.90 86.90	86.15 88.15	86.05 86.25	84.90	LIVE H	OG8 40.00	00 lb; cents/fi		
P P	86.05	87.00	87.50	86.90 87.50					
ñ	88.55	88.00	90.00	87.50 80 oo		Close	Previous	High/Low	,
ir	88.55	90.50	90.10	89.00	Feb	43.850	43,300	43.900	43.3
- 27	90.30	90.50	8	90.1g	Apr	43.500	43,300	43.626	43.3
•			-		Jun	47.950	47.625	48.175	47.80
					Jul Aug	47.575	47.350	47.725	47.3
					Oct	45.650 41.575	45.426	46.650	45.30
	C25				Dec	41.575 42.500	41,500	41.875	41.5
REU	TERS (B	se:Septen	nber 18	1931 -	Feb	42.825	42,475 42,900	42.600	42.3
100)				{	PORK		42.840 0,000 lbs; cs	43.000	42.80
_	Jan.22	Jan.21	•	о уг вдо		Close	Previous		
	1705.3	1706.7	<u> </u>	1602.8	Feb			High/Low	
W	JONES (Base: Dec.			Mer	36.400 36.800	38.575	37.450	36.30
						·	36.850		
_	Jan.21	Jan.20	minth ac	O YT ago	May	37.950	38.000	37 800 38.450	36.70 37.70

8017	NOEARS 3	,000 DU MIN,	Cents/guit	QUSNUI	
	Close	Previous	High/Lo	344	•
Mar	581/2	583/2	584/0	58070	•
May	584/6	587/0	587/6	583/8	
Jul Aug	569/2 591/D	591/2 592/6	592/2	588/2	
Sep	589/6	591/G	593/0 593/4	589/0 589/6	
Nov	595/0	597/0	598/6	594/0	
Jan	602/2	603/6	605/0	601/6	
Mar	610/0	611/0	O	0	
SOY		. 60,000 lbs;	cents/lb		
	Close	Previous	High/Lo		
Mar May	21.46 21.66	21.59 21.81	21.67	21.39	
Jul Jul	21.87	22.00	21.68 22.10	21.63 21.83	
Aug	21.92	22.04	22.13	21.89	
Sep	21.93	22.05	22.15	21.92	
Oct	21.93 22.01	22.02 22.09	22.15 22.20	21.93 22.00	
Jan	22.00	22.17	0	8	
SOYA	USEAN ME	AL 100 tons;	\$/ton		1
	Close	Previous	High/Lo	w	•
Mar May	183.6	184.1	184.1	182.9	,
Jud	183.6 185.0	183.9 185.2	184.0 185.5	183.0 184.4	
Aug	185.4	185.7	185.7	185.3	
Sep Oct	186.1 187.2	186.4	186.5	188.1	
Dec	188.6	187.4 188.8	187.5 189.1	187.0 188.3	
Jan	189.5	189.5	0	0	
MAL	Close	min; cents/5			
Mar	218/4	Previous 218/4	High/Lo	218/0	
May	226/4	226/4	218/6 228/6	226/0	
Jui Sep	233/2 239/2	233/2	233/4	232/8	
Dec	245/4	245/6	240/0 249/2	239/0 245/2	
Mar May	252/2 257/0	252/4	253/0	252/0	
Dec	250/0	257/4 248/0	257/0 250/0	256/6 250/0	
WHE	17 5,000 by	min; cents/i	80lb-bushe	at	
	Close	Previous	High/Lo	*	4
Mar May	387/4 359/2	388/2	390/2	386/6	þ
Jul	332/6	359/2 332/2	361/6 335/0	358/0 330/4	
Sep Dec	335/4 344/0	336/0	337/0	335/0	
Mar	348/0	3457) 350/4	346/8 0	344/0 0	
LIVE	ATTLE 40	,000 lbs; cen	ts/lbe	1	
	Close	Previous	High/Lov	<u> </u>	
Feb Apr	79.550 78.075	79.425	79.675	79.200	
Jun	73.275	77.950 73.200	78.200 73.450	77.600 73.075	
Aug Oct	71.825	71.600	71.800	71.450	
Dec	72.275 72.700	72.150 72.500	72.400	72.250	
Feb	79.550	79.425	72.700 79.875	72.500 79.200	
LIVE !	1008 40,00	00 lb; cents/fi	bs		
	Glose	Previous	High/Lov	,	
Feb Apr	43.850	43.300	43.900	43.350	
Jun	43,500 47,950	43,30g 47,625	43.626	43.350 43.800	
ᄲ	47.575	47.350	48. 175 47.725	47,800 47,350	
Aug Oct	45.650	45.426	46.650	45.300	
	41.575 42.500	41,500 42,475	41.875	41,500 42,325	
Dec	42.825	42,900	42.600 43.000	42.335 42.800	
Feb					
Feb		10,000 lbs; ce	ints/fb		
PORK		Previous	nts/ib High/Low		ė
Feb PORK Feb	Glose 36,400	0,000 lbs; cs Previous 36,575		36.300	Ì
PORK Feb Mar May	Ciose 36,400 36,800	Previous 36.575 36.650	High/Low 37 450 37 800	38.300 36.700	ø
PORK PORK Feb Mar May Jul	GELLIES 4 Ciose 36.400 36.800 37.950 38.275	Previous 36.575 36.850 38.000	High/Low 37 450 37 600 38 450	36.300 36.700 37.700	j
PORK Feb Mar May	GELLIES 4 Ciose 36.400 36.800 37.950	Previous 36.575 36.650	High/Low 37 450 37 800	38.300 36.700	į



FINANCIAL TIMES WEEKEND JANUARY 23/JANUARY 24 1993

CURRENCIES, MONEY AND CAPITAL MARKETS

said.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling under more pressure

STERLING continued to perform weakly against the D-Mark yesterday, falling as low as DM2.4370, following the release of poor economic data in the UK this week, writes Lames Blitz.

Counterparties in the London market said that it had seen almost no interest in buying the pound from UK corporates on Thursday, and that there was barely any improvement vesterday.

ations in Japan

The pound came under strong pressure in the morning as dealers speculated on the possibility of the Bank of England cutting base rates in the wake of Thursday's very poor unemployment figure for December.

The currency recovered up to DM2.45 in the early afternoon, but later fell back to close in London at DM2.44, 11/4 pfennigs down on the day. It closed more than 1'4 cents higher against the dollar, at

\$1.5345. There were disturbing indi-cations yesterday that the pound could go down to DM2.40, which many dealers see as the next important support level

E IN NEW YORK

L 5270 - 1.5280 0 54 - 0.53em 1.33 - 1.30em 3.75 - 3.65em

STERLING INDEX

CURRENCY MOVEMENTS

79 7 66.2 94.1 115.0 116.0 118.4 125.8 110.5 110.7 110.4 82.9 150.8

OTHER CURRENCIES

Jan 22

UAE....

100 4 -23.92

E \$
1.5185 1.5210 0.9996 1.0000
2.2550 - 2.2580 1.4875 - 1.4885
22438,4 .22453.91.4767.0 1.4767.5
8.7225 8.4140 5.4750 - 1.4767.5
8.725 8.4140 5.4750 - 1.4767.5
8.725 9.329.00 212.649 216.890
111.7510 111.7680 7.7330 7.7330 1.7330
1.7350 1.17510 11.7680 7.7330 - 7.7350
1.2105.010 7.7330 7.7350
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yesterday. Mr Nell MacKinnon, chief

economist at Citibank in London, is among those who believe that the mood of the market towards sterling has changed significantly.

He says that sterling could see DM2.37 within a month, but that it will rise up to the DM2.45 level afterwards. In his view, the January money sup-ply figures, due out on Febru-ary 3, will be crucial to the decision on whether to cut rates. A meeting of the "seven wise men" who advise the UK Treasury, on February 9th, will also be important. "They will come out in favour of a cut in

the money markets were now virtually discounting a full percentage point off base rates before the March budget, and that the UK authorities could ease policy without depressing the pound any further. "The only thing that might put pressure on the currency is if the rate cut comes too soon." he rate cut comes too soon," he

The dollar also suffered a new bout of weakness against the D-Mark yesterday, drop-ping below the DM1.60 level against the D-Mark for the first time this year. It closed at DM1.59 in London, down 2% pfennigs on the day.

The dollar's fall came on the back of a mixed set of eco-

nomic data. A strong 5.5 per cent rise in December housing starts raised hopes for good GDP growth in the fourth quarter. However, jobless DM2.40. which many dealers base rates," he said.

However, Mr Steven Hannah, to January 9, fuelling concerns that employment and incomes of the leading banking concerns that employment and incomes were growing too slowly.

EMS EUROPEAN CURRENCY UNIT RATES									
	Eca Central Rates	Currency Amounts Against Ecu Jan 22	% Change from Central Rate	% Spread vs Weakest Currency	Divergence Indicator				
enish Peseta reuguese Escado Iglas Franc sch Gelider Harti Inish Krooe ench Franc sh Punt	143.386 182.194 40.6304 2.21958 1.96992 7.51410 6.60683 0.735334	138.587 176.288 40.3163 2.20227 1.95788 7.51951 6.61933 0.736843	-3.35 -3.24 -0.77 -0.78 -0.61 0.07 0.19 0.21	3 68 3.54 0.99 0.99 0.82 0.13 0.02 0.00	53 49 21 11 11 17 19 130 130				

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FINANCIAL FUTURES	AND OPTIONS		Money Market	Gross Net CAR Int C
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LIFFE EURONARK OPTIONS	LIFFE ITALIAN GOVT. BOND (RTP) FUTURES	LIFFE SHORT STERLING OPTIONS E500,000 points of 100%	Gartmore Money Management Ltd	Bavenham Tst Pic-Davenham 500 Acc
Strike Calif-settlements Pais-settlements	OPTIONS Lira 240m 198ths of 108% Strike Calis-settlements Puts-settlements Price Mar Jun Mer Jun	Strike Calls settlements Puls-settlements Price Mar Jun Mar Jun	13-18	(10 000+1 Year) 10 00 / 301 -/ 10-0
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9% NOTIONAL BETTER GET CARGO STORE of 100%	U.S. TREASURY BONGS (CRT) 8% \$104,000 32mb of 100%	JAPANESE YEK (IIIII) Y12.5m 5 per y100	6elman Rd. Uzarroje USB 15A 12 500-09 999	Julian Hodge Bank Ltd
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Gloss High Law Pres. Mar 92.97 93.09 92.90 92.97	Jun 96.75 96.76 96.74 96.72 Sep 96.62 96.44 96.62 96.39	THREE-MONTH EUROBOLLAR (1946) Slar points of 100% Americ High Lop Pre-		# 71 Edmark St. Community 6 00 4 50 6 00 Yearly
Jun 92.98 93.07 92.95 92.97 Estimated column 39342 (46921) Previous day's open left. 153624 (151241)	DEC - 123.79	Mar 96.63 96.65 96.61 96.60 Jun 96.35 96.37 96.33 96.31 Jun 96.36 96.00 96.93 95.92	125 000-149 999 6 25 4 69 6 43 Mr	Midland Bank plc
6% NOTIONAL MEDIUM TERM GERMAN GOVT. BOND (BORL) BM250,886 1880s at 188% *	So yet C Latest High Low Pres	Dec 95.37 95.41 95.35 95.33 Mar 95.13 95.17 95.11 95.08 Jun 94.73 94.77 94.71 94.66	136-40 High St Stoogn St 152 3 94 5 35 0	Digitary
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6% NUTURNAL LONG TERM JAPANESE GOVT. BOND Y100m 100m of 100% Close High Low	Nar 0.6759 0.6770 0.6736 0.6741	J _{bs} 436.45 436.75 436.00 496.01 See	Kingsway, Cardiof CF1 4YB 0222 2299 Cardiol Account C25 000+ 5 00 - 5 09 6	Rr Nationwide Bidg Soc — Businessinvestor
Mar 109.60 109.60 109.40 d Jun 108.98 Estimated volume 1497 (477)	Jun 0.6713 0.6729 0.6701 0.6702 Sep	Dec 436.90	Barclays Select	Pipers War Senting of 1990 1 3 68 4 99 Qur 12 000 14 999 - 1 4 90 3 68 4 99 Qur 10 15 000 17 999 - 1 5 40 4 02 5 5.51 Qur 10 15 000 17 999 - 1 5 40 4 3 6 0 3 Qur
Traded exclusively on APT 12% HOTHMAL ITALIAN GEVT. BEND (ETP) *	PHILABELPHIA SE \$/5 OPTIONS		12 000-19 999 5 00 3 75 5 00 76 12 000-19 999 5 90 76 12 000-124 999 5 90 475 5 90 76 125 000-149 999 6 30 475 6 30	ari (25,000-149,999) 6.40 6.50 7.00 Qr arir (50,000+1 6.40 6.18 7.00 Qr arir Paytman Bids Soc Prestige Cheque Account
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- Jun 93.56 95.25 95.07 94.96 Estimated volume 10800 082230 Previous day's open int. 26.360 (25.91.2)	Price Feb Mar Apr 1.475 4.75 5.30 5.76	Jun Feh Mar Apr Jun 6 34 0 38 1.27 2.20 341, 4,99 0.98 2.13 3 15 4.52 3 86 2.05 3 29 4.43 5.86 2,94 3.67 4.86 5.98 7.40	Batclays Trinier interests PO Sox 125, Northamptai C1,000-62,499 300 225, 355, 355, 125, 300-62,499 300 300 406, 110,000-624,499, 400 300 406, 125,000-624,499, 400 345, 468	Descincial Rank PLC
THREE MONTH STEPLING * E500,000 paints of 100%	1575 022 0.47 1.49	294 3.67 4.86 5.98 7.40 294 5.77 4.71 7.70 9.07	Brown Shipley & Co Ltd Founders Court, Lethbory, London EC2 071-605 91 HICA 5.88 441 6001 Prof Demand Arc 5.88 441 6 001	B33 30 Ashley Rd, Altrincham, Cheshire H I C A (61,000+) . 15.56 413 5641 Mth Or
Close High Low Prev. 1 Mar 93 67 93.73 93.61 93.69	1.600 0.06 0.22 0.77 1.625 0.02 0.08 0.60	1.17 10.39 10.97 11.77 12.94	a d d b - Prout Pile	42 St Andrew Sq. Editating Ent 272. 037-349 Qtr E50 000+ 6.14 Qtr
4 Sep 94.07 94.10 94.00 94.06 2 Dec 94.02 94.06 93.99 94.03 8 Mar 93.87 93.90 93.85 93.85	Previous day's volume. Calls 14,973 Parts 25,236		Caledonian Bank Pic 851 Autres Square, Edwhardh EH2 2PP 031 556 8 HICA	235 125 000 - 123 499 15.00 375 509 Qr 15.000 - 179 999 15.00 263 355 Qr 15.000 - 179 999 13.00 263 355 Qr 15.000 - 179 999 13.00 263 355 Qr
4 Jun 93.60 93.65 93.58 93.58 4 Est. Vol. Onc. Figs. not. shows) 58003 (104949) 6 Previous day's open int. 246022 (237081)	7 to 10 YEAR 19% MOTIONAL FRENCH SOND GAS	7 Vial/ + Geen i	Z5 Birchii Lass. Loedon EC3V 90.1 071-623 2 MICA	070 Save & Presper/Robert Flemion Mill 10-22 Western Rd. Romford RM 318 8800 282101 Mill Client Accessor. 15-50 4 13 5651 Daily Mill TESSA Fixed 1 15-79 4 13 5775 Mill 1 TESSA Fixed 1 15-79 7 10 Mill 1 TESSA Verisale 16-79 1 Mill 1
THREE MONTH EUROPOLLAR *	June 114 62 114.50 +0	02 113.62 113.36 7.99 229.16 02 114.68 114.48 7.85 47.2	Charterhouse Bank Limited 12 Charterhouse Bank Limited 14 1 Paterhouse Row, ECAN 7DH.	TESSA Variable 1679 — 1 / 001 4441
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Est. Vol. Cinc. Figs. not shown) 1636 (1668) Previous day's open int. 20017 (19866) THREE MONTH EUROMARK *	September 92.53 92.48	- 92.55 92.46 7.52 24,6 102 92.82 92.76 7.23 11.0	Many other correctes are available - for rates preser phone on 2168	C10 000-10 day notice 8 50 6 38 8 77 3-Man L10 000-180 day notice 9 25 6 94 9 46 6-Mith
Dill las pelats of 180% Close High Low Prev.	CAC-40 FLITURES (MATER) Stack ladex	25.40 1979 0 - 26.3	30 St Vincent Plant: Glassfare 61 27L 110 000-129,999. 15 15 3 86 5.25 41 130 000-129,999. 15 25 3 94 5 25	Ov Conital Plus Changes Account Ov Conital Plus Changes Account Ov Conital Plus Changes Account
33 Jun 92.84 92.93 92.81 92.83 22 Sep 93.38 93.43 93.36 93.36 55 Dec 93.58 93.67 93.55 93.58	February 1865.0 1858.5 1	10 1874.0 1858.0 - 5.5 10 1888.0 1877.0 - 9.7	42 Back Limited	J. Heary Schroder Wage & Co Ltd . 327 6000
7 Jun 93.95 94.01 93.91 93.90	June 1892 0 1892,5 Estimated volume 12,826 † Total Open Interest 49,	10 10/20 10054	70 PO Box 104 Primet by Steesage 0438 74 PO Box 104 Primet by Steesage 1775 785 d Box State let 25 (864 - 17 20 5 400 1 5 400 1 1 1 1 Florid Rate L. 1000 - 1 5 5 6 5 4 975 1 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 7 5 1 5 5 5 5 5 5 7 5 1 5 5 5 5	Yearly Western Trust Kigh Laterest Cheque ALL
72 Previous 627'S OPEN INC. 416.575 VALLESTY 13 THREE MONTH ECU	ECU 80HD (MÁTIF) March 110.52 110.22 H Estimated volume 3,116 ; Total Open Interest 11,5	1.16 110.38 110.00 8.46 11,5 37	The Co-operative Bank	E15 000+ 14 999 6 25 4 6 6 6 00 0tr E5 000-E14 999 6 25 4 6 6 6 0tr 62000 E1 000-64 999 16,00 4 50 6 14 0tr
7 ESU las polads el 199%	OPTION ON LONG-TERM FRENCH ISSUE GLATIF)	Perts	TESSA	Wimbledon & South West Finance PLD. With 114 Newgare St. London EC17AE 071-606 9485 High in Crewe Arc. 16.25 4691 6.401 Qr.
99 Jan 9166 9171 9165 9163 34 Sep 9228 9230 9225 9225 19 Dec 9263 9263 9258 925	Strike February March	June February March J 2.88 0.02 0.18 0 0.07 0.36	. 1 55,000-525,277 -13 62 - 3 63 63 63 6	5-this 1-this 1-
Estimated volume 1562 (1760) Previous day's open int. 13082 (12571)	113 - 0.17 114 0.06 0.27 - 115 - 0.07	1.47 - 0.84 1 0.96	.02 Teo Tier - Instant Accest Sarlage .550,000+550 4.13 5.58 .500-649 999500 3.75 5.06 .500-649 999500 3.75 5.06	
THREE MONTH EURO SWISS FRANC SFR Ins paints of 100% Close High Low Pres	116 - Open int 13,955 168,099	53,697 13,972 173,700 247. 6.925	502 E1 000-64 999 3 00 2.25 3.02 C1-6999 11.50 1131 151	b-Mith than once 2 rest "Compoursed Appear Have not be second. b-Mith Frequency at which interest is credited to the second.
- Mar 94.55 94.66 94.57 94.57 Jan 94.95 94.96 94.90 94.91 Sep 95.25 95.25 95.20 95.18 5.5 Dec 95.32 95.31 95.30 95.2	t Will Allefel & Obes listenest sidmus sue un zue buen	sun voj.		
Dec. 95.32 95.31 95.30 95.2 3H Estimated volume 8643 (13303)	·		-({	

BANK	RETURN		
BANKING DEPARTMENT	Wednesday January 20, 1983	dec	increase or rease for week
	Σ.		3
LIABILITIES Capital	14,553,000		
Public Deposits	2,204,247,789	+	2,107,239,671
Bankers Deposits	1,452,970.642	-	155,439,535
Reserve and other Accounts	3,885,043,240	-	101,010,901
	7,536,814,671	+	1,850,789,235
ASSETS		+	141.590.000
Government Securities	1,418,571,175	Ŧ	414, 197, 928
Advance and other ACCOUNTS	3,820,266,690	Ŧ	1,295,157,521
Premises Equipment & other Secs	2,287,214,161		105,758
Notes	10,489,497 273,148	+	9,544
Coin	210,140		
_	7,536,814,671	+	1,850,789,236
ISSUE DEPARTMENT			
LIABILITIES	16,299,530,503	-	189,884,242
Notes in circulation	10.469.497	-	105,758
Notes in Banking Department			170,000,000
_	16,310,000,000	_:	170,000,000
ASSETS			
Concernment Debt	11,015,100		389,911,491
Other Government Securities	7,842,255,391	-	
Other Securities	8,656,729,509		
•	16.310,000,000		170,000,000

Money Market Trust Funds Ret CAR Int Co 0732 770114 - 6 793 Min - 6 895 Min - 7.003 Min Fidelity Maney Market Account Fidelity Brokenge Service Ltd Osshill Rose 12-4 999 Ld Cashill Rose 15-50 425 Ld Cashill Rose 150 000-1249 999 Lb Cash 4 901 6 1230 000-1499 999 Lb Cash 4 901 6 1250 000-1499 999 Lb Cash 4 901 6 1250 000-1499 999 Lb Cash 4 9091 6 1250 000-1499 999 Lb Cash Money Market Gartmore Money Management Ltd 16-18 Monument St London ECSR 880 071-236 1425 HICA 610,000 + 15.75 431 5.8713-Min **Bank Accounts** Gress Not CAR but Cr ALB Bank High Interest Cheque Account Belmost Rd. Ustandge UBB ISA 0800 382115 02 506-47 499 . . . | 4 70 2 244 | 3 79 | 00r 12 10 000 - . . | 4 70 352 | 4 79 | 00r ed Trust Bank Ltd C50 000+ 17.00 25 17.10 4 17.00 17.0 Midland Bank plc P0 Boy 2, Shelfield Enthquer Act (5000+ (10,000+ (25,000+ (50,000+ TESSA Bank of Scotland 38 Tornadosedie St., EC2P 2EN 88 Og & 1256-12499 | 5 64 625,000-6249,999 | 5 88 6250,000- | 6 75 Nationwide Bidg Soc — Bu Business High Interest Chapse Ac Business Way Secondon (SKSS 1/ rown Shipley & Co Ltd Royal Bank of Scotland plc Premium Acc nian Bank Pic IZTE, Edinburch EH2 2PP 031 556 8235 ULC Trest Limited 1 Crest Cumberland PI, London W1H 7AL 071-258 0094 10 000-90 ary octor 8 50 6 38 8 77 3 -Neb 110 000-180 day notice 19 25 6 941 9 4616-860 Confederation Bank Limited 10 Box 104 Primet N Screage 10 Box 104 Primet N Screage 17 70 5775 7.85 i-Hits 17 10 5775 7.85 i-Hits 18 10 5775 7.85 Western Trust High Interest Cheque Acc The Moneycone, Physical PLI 15E 0752 224141 ELS 000+ 650 488 656 9tr ELS 000-EL4 999 625 497 40 0tr EL 000-E4 499 16.00 450 614 9tr

MONEY MARKET FUNDS

11

- 1	
I	
1	HALLWOOD HOLDINGS S.A.
1	acciété anonyme
r .	Registered Office : LLDEMBOURG, 14, rue Aldringen
week_	Commercial Register Section B No 13.142
	MATTERS OF ANALYSIS OF SHAREHOLDERS
	to make depart menting of shappholders of HALLWOOD HOLDINGS S.A. will be held at its
571 I	metatared office, 14, rue Aldringen, Lucembourg, on 1st February 1993 at 10.30 a.m. for the
535 (901	purpose of considering and voting on the following methers :
901	1 1. To hear and accept:
	e, the menagement report of the Board of Directors,
235	b. the report of the Statutory Auditor.
	2. To approve the annual accounts of the Company for the year ended 30th September
200	1992
000 928	3. To discharge and grant full indemnity to the directors and the auditor with respect to their
521	performance of duties during the year ended 30th September 1992.
758	4. To re-elect Messrs A.I. Gumbinor, B.M. Troup, H.P. Holinger and H.C.S. Warendorf as directors of the Company until the next annual general meeting of stereholders and to
544	directors of the Company until the next exercis general imported of exercismons and
	provide for the directors' remuneration. 5. To re-clect Deloitte & Touche Luxembourg as the statutory auditor of the Company until
235	
_	the next annual general meeting of shereholders.
	6, Appropriation of profits. 7, Any other business.
	7. Any other business. The shareholders are achieved that no quorum for the shatutory meeting is required and that
242	decisions will be taken by the majority of shares present or represented.
758	to produce the past of the married the mirrors of bosset shares are recorded to depotes, train
***	shares three business days before the meeting at the registered office of the Company, 14
,000	the Aldringen, Lucembourg or with the following bank:
	Interpolitant Bank Zürich A.G.
	Stattheusquei 1
491	8022 Zürkh
,491	Switzpriand

MONEY MARKETS

FORWARD RATES AGAINST STERLING

Spot 1 3 6 12 miles miles miles

Excitement on rates

THE BANK OF ENGLAND signalled no change in UK base rates yesterday, although some money market dealers believe there is now a good chance of policy being eased in the UK in the immediate future, writes

James Blitz The last two days have seen a remarkable change of senti-ment in the sterling cash and futures market. Last Friday week, the feeling in the market was that a base rate cut would not come before the budget on March 16, and 3-month money closed at around 71 per cent.

UK clearing bank base lending rate 7 per cent from November 13, 1992

Thursday's extremely poor figures for unemployment and manufacturing output have raised expectations in some quarters of an immediate rate cut. Three-month money yesterday closed at 61 per cent. a '4 percentage point down on

The March short sterling contract was yesterday trading some 35 basis points up on the week at 93.73, before falling back to close at 93.62.
At that closing level, it

assumes that 3-month money in March will be at 6.38 per

Yesterday's Treasury Bill tender was also seen by one dealer as a sign of how bullish

the market has become about rate cuts. The Bank of England offered £100m of 6 month bills

at an average discounted rate of 5.9683 per cent. The Bank of England's operations will be scrutinised in minute detail next week for any sign they give on interest

rate policy. Yesterday's shortage of £750m was seen as a conveniently neutral figure behind which the Bank could conceal its innermost thoughts, and there was no need for it to offer an early

round. Most of the early bids for cash were almost certainly at levels below base rate, and only £10m of bills were bought the Bank at 12 o'clock. Again, conditions were a little difficult and there was late assistance of £190m.

One money market dealer yesterday circled February 4th yesterday circled February 4th in his diary as a date when the next policy easing could come. That is the day on which the Bundesbank council is meeting, and a cut in rates then might be followed by an assing in the ITK

easing in the UK.

However, he was bracing himself for a few days of intense speculation next week.
The trouble with this government," he said, "is that - in this sort of situation they have a tendency to

FT LONDON INTERBANK FIXING O1 00 a.m. Jan 22) 3 nombs US dollars bid 3& bid 3å offer 3å The fixing rates are the arithmetic means rounded to the marrest one-statement, of the hid and offered rates for Skilm quoted in the market by five entertone banks at 11.00 a.m. each working day. The hanks are Markonal Westminster Bank, Bank of Tokyo, Deutsche Bank, Barque National de Paris and Morgan Gouranty Visus.

MONEY RATES

i volume 8643 (13303) izy's open lat. 37938 (36154)

Close High Cow 87.90 87.92 87.76 88.42 88.45 88.33 88.63 88.65 88.61 88.71 88.73 88.64

Close High Low 2804.0 2813 0 2780.0 2824.0 2825.0 2825.0 2849.0

Contracts traded on APT. Closing prices shown.

1-mth 3-mth 6-mth 12-mth 15293 15214 15117 1.4980

3.16 5.0 5.0 10 93

Eximated volume 2566 (1643) Previous day's open let. 15763 (15850)

POUND - DOLLAR

FT FREEER EXCHANGE RATES

NEW YORK			Treasury	Bills and 6	londs	
Lunchtime Prime rate Broker loan rate Fed. funds at intervention.	6 T 5 S 22 8	ne montis ko montis kree montis kreentis kreyear		2,80 Fire y 3,04 Seren 3,17 10-ye 3,43 30- y e		6.22 6.58 7.32
Jan.72	Overnight	One Mosth	Two Months	Three Months	Six Mordis	Lombard Intervention
Prankfert	850-8.60 121-123 51-51 831-843 34-38 121-121	8.55.8.55 11.4-12.4 53.65.3 8.15.8.30 38.33 124-12.4 30.35	8 45-8.60 - 25-30	8.49.8.55 11 \(\) 11 \(\) 5 \(\) 5 \(\) 5 \(\) 7.45 \(\) 8.05 12 \(\) 12 \(\) 18-25	7.95-8.10 - - - 16-18	9.50 9.10 - - - - -
	OND	ON M	ONEY	RATI	ES	
Jan 22	Overnig	7 4000		Tieree Mostifis	Six Montis	One Year
Interbank Offer Interbank Bld Sterling CDs. Local Authority Deps. Local Authority Bond Discount Mist Deos Company Deposits Finance House Deposi Treasury Bills (Boy)	7½	71-2 71-4 71-2 71-4	714 714 714 714 - 714 655 688	613 6 5 5 6 5 6 5 6 5 6 5 6 5 6 5 6 5 6 5	9999 - 175725	9999 1 1 1 5 1 1 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

EPO Prince pet					
Treasury Bills (sell); one Bank Bills (sell); one m	meath 62 per	er cent; thr	ee months ó e months ó	નું per cest; ડાં ઢ per cest; T	reasury Bills: Average
tender rate of discount	reed rates for	r period Jan	mary 26, 19	93 to Februar	y 23., 1993, Scheme I.
8.38 p.c., Schemes 11.5.	232 p.c. Lo	cal Anthor	ty and Fina	nce Houses sev	en days' notice, others
Seven days Tixed Finance	4 per cent. (Certificates	of Tax Depo	젊: (5년)박 이;	Deposit £100,000 and
nuer held whose continue		and the second	onthe 5 ner	rem - Hader S	100,000 31 ₂ per cest
cent; six-nine months 5 from Nov.16, 1992, De	DOSIES MININ	1840 197 9	Do tather	Mair .	

BASE LENDING RATES Cyprus Popular Bank 7 Duncan Lawrie 7 Equatorial Bank pic 7 Exeter Bank Limited 8 Northern Bank Ltd 7 Nykredii Mortgage Brik 7.5 Rockunghe Bank Ltd ... 9 Royal Bit of Scotland ... 7 Smith & Wilman Secs. 7 Finencial & Gen Bank ... 7 •Robert Fleming & Co ... 7 B & C Merchant Bank .. 13 Standard Chartered TSB Umibank oic...

Bank of Cyprus C, Hoare & Co Hongkong & Shenghel. 7 Julian Hodge Bank 7 @Leopold Joseph & Sons 7

Unity Trust Bank Pic ... 7
Unity Trust Bank Pic ... 7
Western Trust 7
Whiteamay Laidiaw 7
Yorkshire Bank 7

OUnited Bit of Kussait 7

US\$50,000,000 FLOATING RATE NOTES DUE 1998 (Redeemable at the option of Noteholders in April 1996 and April 1997 and at the option of the Issuer on any interest payment date falling in or after April 1996) In accordance with the provisions of the Notes, notice is hereby given as

SUNKYONG INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Interest period: January 21st, 1993 to April 21, 1993

Interest payment date: April 21, 1993 Interest rate: 3.6875% per annum

Coupon amount: US\$2,304.69 per note of US\$250,000 A DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF T AGENT BANK

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LONDON'STOCK EXCHANGE: Dealings

Details of business done shown below have been taken with consent from last Thursday's Stock Exchange Official List and should not be reproduced without permission. Details relate to those securities not included in the FT Share

Unless otherwise indicated prices are in pence. The prices are those at which the business was done in the 24 hours up to 5 pm on Thursday and settled through the Stock Exchange Talisman system, they are not in order of execution but in ascending order which denotes the day's highest and lowest dealings.

For those securities in which no business was recorded in Thurs-

day's Official List the latest recorded business in the four previous days is given with the relevant date. Aule 535(2) stocks are not regulated by the International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Ltd.

‡ Bargains at special prices. • Bargains done the previous day.

British Funds, etc. No. of bargains included 2825 Treasury 13 4 % Silk 2000/03 - £130 % 130 % 130% Skk 2005 - £114% Exchequer 10%% Skk 2005 - £114% Gueranteed Export Finance Corp PLC 11%% Gtd Nts 1994 (Br - £104.47

(18.1593) 1216% Gid Un Sik 2002(Reg) - £125% 12%% Gld Ln St. 2002(Br£10000&100000) - £125%

Corporation and County Stocks No of bargains included 2 London County 2%% Cons 9th 1920(or after) - £23 Corp of London 3%% Deb St. 83/93 - £99%@ pr sam Comp3½% Stk 1945(or after) - £33 (20)a93)

- C33 (20Ja93)

Birmingham District Council 11%% Red Sit 2012 - £115% (20Ja93)

Glasgow Corp Cas 6%% Ann Sit(Perp) - £30 (15Ja93)

Girkless Metropolitan Council 11 6% Red Sit 2031 - £111% (20Ja93)

Leads(City of) 13%% Red Sit 2005 - £128

Livetpool Corp 2%% Red Sit 1925(or after) - £27 (15Ja93)

Newcasies - Upon-TynetCity of) 11%% Red

UK Public Boards Agnoutural Mortgage Corp PLC61.% Deb Sts 92:94 - 1975. 7 to Deb Sts 91:93 - 199 (19Ja93) 10 to Deb Sts 92:95 - 1101 to [19Ja93) Port of London Authority 3% Port of London A Sts 29:99 - 173 (19Ja93)

Commonwealth-Government South Australian 3% Cons Ins Sik 1916(or

Foreign Stocks, Bonds, etc-(coupons payable in London) No. of bargains included 128 Rio De Janero State of Brazil 51% o ChytSig Ln Bds (A-now 11/2) - £15 (18Je\$3)

(18Je83)
A.M.P. (U.K.) PLC 13% Bds 2015 (Br £5000&100000) - £124% [18Je83)
Abbey National PLC 9% Nits 1993 - \$103 31 103 41 (20Je83)
Abbey National Stering Capital PLC 10% Subord Gld Bds 2002 (Br £ Ver) - £105% (18Je83)
Abbey National Stering Capital PLC 10% Abbey National Free Stering Capital PLC 10% Abbey National Treasury Capital PLC 4 Abbey National Treasury Capital PLC 4 E106% (18Ja93) boy National Treasury Servs PLC5%% Gry Nts 1995 (Br Svar) - \$100% (01.5 10"% Grd Nts 1997 (Br Svar) - \$108% (20Ja93) 11 80% Gtd Nis 1996 (Br L Var) -

Agricultural Mortgage Corp PLC 11":% Nrs 1994 (Br£1000,100008100000) - £105%

(19Ja93) BAA PLC 11¹, ⁴ o Bds 2016 (Br £100008100000) - £116 (18Ja93) BP America Inc 91, ⁴ o Gtd Nts 1994 -£102% (19Ja93) 21021 (190893) 91)% Gtd Nts 1998 (Br E Var) - E1041) monts Australia Ld 111. Gtd

8P Developmonts Australia Ld 111.4° GM Bds 2001 (Br £ Var) - £1111° (Blas3) Bardays Bank PLC 121.4° Sensor Subord Bds 1997/BL/Var) - £116° Delive Crop Industries PLC 51.4° Subord Criv Bds 2002 - £99 (15.183) Bue Cricle Industries Capital Ld 10:1% Cnv Cap Bds 2005(Br250008100000) £1124 (19Ja93) radiord & Bingley Building Society Fits Rate Nts 1995 (Br £10000) - £99 775 (183393) British Aerospace PLC 10%% Bds 2014

(Br£10000&100000) - £89% 11' - Bd\$ 2008 (Br £1000&10000) -£1014 - 4 nush Arways PLC 9">" Nts 1997 - \$102"> 1: (18Ja93) 1011% Bds 2008 - £104% British Gas PLC7% Nts 1997 (Br £ Vari

British Gas PLC7***, Nts 1997 (Br £ Var)
- £99% 100 (20Ja93)
- £99% 100 (20Ja93)
- £100. 100000 - £111%
- £100. 100000 100000 - £111%
- £100. 100000 100000 - £111%
- £100. 100000 100000 - £110 22 % (BaJa93)
- British Inand Co PLC 12**, Bds 2016
- (Br£10000&100000) - £105%
- British Telecom Finance BV8 % % Gtd Bds
- 1994 - \$106.06 105.16 (20Ja93)
- British Telecommunicatoris PLC 13 %
- Nts 1993 (Br£100. 1000 10000) - £100.23 (20Ja93)
- £100.23 (20Ja93)
- Zero Cop Bds 2000 - £56% (19Ja93)
- Burmah Castrol Capital/Jersey) Ld9%%
- Cnv Cap Bds 2006(Reg) - £132% % 3%

Cable & Wireless Int Pinance BV10%% Gtd Bds 2002 (Br £10000&100000) -£105% 8875 (18Ja93) Eticorp Overseas Finance Corp NV 10% 2/8 Opt Gtd Bds 1993 - £100 4 (20Ja93) (20Ja93)
Commercial Union PLC 10%% Glid Bds 2002 (Br £ Var) – £106% (18Ja93)
Commonwealth Bank of Australia 14% f 1994 (Br\$A100810000) – \$A108%

(20JuB3)
Cookson Finance NV5/% Gtd Red Cnv
Pri 2004 (BrShs 185) - \$126%
Daily Mail & General Trust PLC8%% Exch
Bds 2005 (Br£100085000) - £129% son Finance NV9%% GldRedCrvPrf

2004(Certs168* 1216) - 11112
(19.1483)
Dixons Group (Cepital) PLC63* Cnv Gtd
8de 2002 (Br550008.50000) - 287*;
ECC Group PLC63* Cnv Bds 2003 2100 (19.1493)
Eksportinears AS 75* Nts. 1993 (Sep
1985 issue) - 5102 15 102* (20.1493)
12.25* Nts. 1996 (Br L Var) - L88.7
(15.1493)
El Enterprise Finance PLC8** Gtd Exch
8ds 2006 (Reg 25000) - 299* (20.1493)
84% Gtd Exch Bd9
2006(Br550005100000) - 299*
(18.1493)

(18.ieS)
Enterprise ON PLC 10% Ns 1996 (8r E50008:10000) - £107 % (15.ieS)
Far Eastern Textile Ld 4% 8ds 2006 - \$101 101% (15.ieS)
Finland(Republic of) 9 % Nis 1997 (8r2 Var) - £105 % (20.ieS)
10% 8ds 1997 - £107%
10% 8ds 1997 - £107%
10% 8ds 1998 - £102 %
10% 8ds 1998 - £102 %

Tesher (Abbert) Finance N.V 5% Gid Red Cnv Pri 2004 - E120 (15.le93) Forte PLC8 % Bds 1997 (Br £5000) -Forte PLC8% 9ds 1997 (Br 75000) 298% (20Ja83)
General Electric Credit Int's NY Zero Con
did Nts 107/36 - \$83 (20Ja93)
Guaranteed Export Finance Corp PLC
10%% Git Bes 2001 (Br£Veri - £111%
(19Ja93)
Gummess PLC 10%% Nts 1997 (Br £1000
& 10000) - £108% (18Ja83)
Natifax Building Sodery 10%% Nts 1997 £107 (15Ja93)
11% Subord Bd3

11% Subord Bds 2014(Br£100008 100000) - £106% 7 Ftig Reie Nts 1985/Br£10000850000) £100.105 (18JeS3) enson PLC9%% Criv Subord 2006 (Br Hanson PLC97 - C... EVar) - £112 Wanson Trust PLC10% Bds 2006

Nenson Trust PLC 10% Bds 2006 (BIC5000) - 599% (19J383) Herrtsons & Crosfield PLC 71% Subord Cnv Bds 2003 - 595% (18J383) Machi Credit Corp 7%% Nts 1996 (Br \$1000,10008 100000) - \$102% \$1000,100000 | 5162 | 1 Hydro-Cuebac 12%50bsSrsH8/3/2015(Br£10000&100000) - £120 % (194.983) Byperis Chamical Industries PLC9%% 8ds 2005 - £100% (194.883)

10% Bds 2003 - £104.575 tional Bank for Rec & Dev9%% Bds 2007 (Br25000) - £100% % %

adbroke Group FinanceJersey)Ld9% Chr Cap Bds 2005 (Br25000&100000) -E96 286 Land Securities PLC93/% 865 2007 -294**©** 61% Criv 8ds 2002 - 289/ 9%% Criv 8ds 2004 (8755000850009) 102 (18Js93) Lasmo PLC 74% Criv 8ds 2006 - 2804

9%% Nts 1999 (Br £ Ver) - £99% 100 Leeds Permanent Building Society 7 % % Nts 1997(Br£Ver) - £98 (18Je93) 10%% Subord Bds 1998 (Br£5000) -£107% 8% (19.1893) Lewis (John) PLC 10%% Bds 1998 (Br £100008100000) - £107% (20.1893) Lews (John) PLC 10% - Bds 2014 (Br£100008 100000) - £103 % (18.fa53) Lloyds Bank PLC 10% - 8.bbd 9ds 1988[Br£10000] - £105 % 7% (18.fa53) MEPC PLC 9% - 8ds 2004 - £95%

(15Ja93) 10%% Bds 2003 - £98 45 (15Ja93) 12% 8ds 2006 (Br 510000 & 100000) -5109.7825 (20,883) Marks & Spencer Finance PLC91% Gtd Nts 1993 - £100% (15,1293) Mowlem (John) & Co PLC111/% Gtd Bds 2013 (Br 10000) - £22 (15,1293) National Grid Co PLC71% Bds 1998 (Br £ National Grid Co PLC / ma Varj - 199 (151493) National Power PLC 10%% Eds 2001 (Br £100003100000) - £108% % (201493) National Westminster Bank PLC 1118% Subord Nhs 2001 (Br £Var) - £113% 119.1493)

[19Ja93] 117/% Undated Subord Nts (Reg) -£103 4 4 ווי אין אין ווי (Br £1000) אין Undated Subord Nts (Br £1000) - £103% stionwide Building Society 11"% Nis 1997 (Br £5000 & 100000) - £110" 1997 (Br £5000 & 100000) - £110 105 65 (15Je93) Filig Rage Nts 1997(Br£5000&50000) -£100 325 (18Je93)

uppon Telegraph and Telephone Corp 6%% Nts 1997 (Br S Var) - \$100% 614 Mis 1997 (Br SVar) - \$103 7 103.9 (19Ja53)

Korway (Kingdom of) 7% Nts 1996 (Br 55000&100000) - \$104% (10Ja33)

7.% Nts 1997 (Br 55000&100000) - \$104% (10Ja33)

Fig Ris Nts December 2002 (Br 5 Var)

- \$100% (10Ja53)

Determentsche Postsparkasse 10% Nts
1994 (Br 55000&100000) - \$107 15

1934 (Br35008100000) - 5107 15
107% (20J839)
Pearson Stering Finance PLC 10%% Grd
Bds 2002 - £106% % (19J835)
PepsGo Capital Corp N/8% Cnv Sub
Debs 1996 - £625.07Ф
Prodensal Finance BV9%% Grd Bds 2007
(Br750008100000) - £96% (19J893)
RMC Capital Ld B%% Cnv Cap Bds 2008
fdr £5000850000) - £101% (18J893)
Redland Starling Funding PLC 10%% Grd
Bds 2001 (Br £V41) - £107% (Bls93)
Royal Bank of Scottand PLC 10%%
Subord Bds 1998 (Br25000325000) -

83. • CimiCapBds 2005(Br - £176.1) • (18.183)
Severn Trant PLC 11 • • Bds 1999 (Br 180008 100000) - £112. • (20.183)
11 • • Bds 2001 (Br £50008 100000) - £113. • (20.1893)
Sough Estates PLC 101. • Bds 2007 - £87. • ⊕
Smeth & Nephew Finance N.V.85. • Gtd Red Crv Prt 2004 (Br) - £124. • (15.193)
Tarmac Finance (Jersey) Ld95. • Crv Cd

(15Ja93) nos (Jersey) Ld9%% Cnv Cap Bds 2006 (Reg £1000) - £89°. 9',% Cnv Cap Bds 2006(Br £5000850000) - £85°. 6% Tate\$Lyte IntErn PLC/Tate&Lyte PLC5%% TatlifnGdBds, 2001(Br) W/WsT&LPLC - 689 (20.1893)
Tesco PLC 101/76 Bds 2002 (Br £Var) - £106%, 7%
Tesco Cupital Ld 9% Criv Cap Bds 2005(Reg £1) - £128 44 % 19 19 % 19 % Criv Cap Bds 2005(Br£50008 10000) - £128/1

- £1285

Thames Water PLC9%* CrwSubord8ds
2006(Br25000850000) - £128* 40 * 50

Thames Water Unitles Finance PLC10** 6
Gd 985 2001 - £109* 3

Group PLC9%* Nts 1994 - £101 * 6

15J393)
10** Gid 8ds 2001(Br£1000810000) -Tokyo Electric Power Co Inc 7: 15 Mts 1997 (Br SC5000) - SC991: 991

(19493)
Toyota Motor Corp6%% Bds 1997(Br 5Var) - \$103.2 103% (18493)
Tralagar House PLC 10% Bds 2014 United Kingdom 71:4% Bds 1997 (BrDM 10008 10000) - DM101.05 (18J393) 7":% Bds 2002(BrSVar) - \$102 7 8"4% Treasury Nts 241,95 (Br ECU Var) - EC100.01 100 03 (15Ja93) 9%% Bds 2001(Br ECU1000,100005100000) - \$104%

ECU1000.100008100000) - E104% (19Ja93)
Victorian Pbic Athrs Fin Agency9% of 6td Bds. 1998(BrVars) - £103.7825 (20Ja93)
Woolwich Building Society 11% Nts. 1996 - £109 % 2 (20Ja93)
Woolwich Building Society 11% Subord Nts. 2001 - £109% 10% (20Ja93)
Deutsche Bank AG \$50m 8.2% Nts. 11/697 (BrV Var) - £87 (20Ja93)
Queenshand Treasury Corp \$A10m 8% Nts. 14/8/2001 - \$A93.493 (18Ja93)
Swedentkingdom 015.2000m \$1,5 Nts. 1995 (Br \$ Var) - £100.530 (20Ja93)

Sterling Issues by Overseas Borrowers

Bank of Greece 10%% Ln Stk 2010(Reg) -£100% (18Je59) Credit Foncer De France 10% 4GadSerLnStk2011.12,13.14(Reg) £110% - £110% 2001 (Rag) - £103% 9% Ln Stk 2001 (Br£5000) - £103% (18Ja93) 9'% Ln Stk 2009 - £102'4 10'%' Ln Stk 2004(Reg) - £110'4 1 11'8 Ln Stk 2002(Reg) - £114'4 %

(20Ja93)
Finland(Regulation of) 11% - Ln Sik 2009
(Reg) - £113.075 % % (19Ja93)
Inco Ld 15%% Uns Ln Sik 2006 \$ Rep Opt - £129 (18Ja93)
International Bank for Rec & Dev 9% - Ln Sik 2010(Reg) - £103%
11564 LD Sik 2010(Reg) - £107 875 % nternational Bank for Rec & Dev 9%% Ln 5th 2010(Reg) = £103% 11.5% Ln Stk 2003 = £117.8875 % reland 12%% Ln Stk 2009(Reg) = £123% (20083) Malaysia 10%% Ln Stk 2009(Reg) = £102 (19.193) Nere Zealand 11%% Stk 2008(Reg) = £112% % (201893) 11%% Stk 2014(Reg) = £116% (18.1893) Patroleos Mexicanos 14%% Ln Stk 2006 = £118

11% Six 2014[149] - 1.1 Six 2006 - 2118
Portugal(Rep of) 9% Ln Six 2016(Reg) - 253 % (19Ja93) 9% Ln Six 2016(Ref) - 253 % (19Ja93) 9% Ln Six 2016(Ref) - 2118 % (19Ja93) 504(Reg) - 2118 % (18Ja93) Swaden(Ringdom of) 11% % Ln Six 2016(Reg) - 2101 % 2 United Mexican States 16 % Ln Six 2008(Reg) - 2132 (19Ja93) 2008(Reg) - £132 (19Jø93) Listed Companies(excluding investment Trusts)

of bargains included 34486 AECI Ld5%% Cum Prf R2 - 40 (20JaS3) APV PI C5 25% Cum Prf E1 - 73 ASH Capital Financel-Bressyll 49% Cov Cap 845 2006 (Reg Units 100p) - 283 90% Crv Cap Bds 2006 (Er EVar) -283

E83
Aberdeen Trust PLCOrd 10p - 27% 30 1
Abbrust Atlas Fund Shs of MPV[United Status Portfolio] - £2 1083
Astron Malaystan Growth Fund(Cayman) Ld Ord \$0.01 - £7% 7.45 7.7
Albert Pisher Group PLCADR (10:1) - \$10% (15.1883)
Alteraptical Alteraptical Services for the call Alexander & Alexander Services Inc Sh5 of Class C Com Sit. \$1 - £18% (15Je93) on Group PLC 5% Cum Pri 21 - 45 5 (20.1893) 8.25p (Net) Criv Cum Red Pri 10p -

550
Alled London Properties PLC 10% 1st
Mig Deb Sit 2025 - 299% (15.863)
Alled-Lyons PLC ADR (1:1) - 39.2
5% Cum Pri 21 - 54 (15.863)
7% Cum Pri 21 - 76
31% Red Deb Sit 87/87 - 282 (18.83)
7% Red Deb Sit 87/87 - 282 (18.83)
7% Red Deb Sit 88/93 - 259 (20.563)
11 1% Deb Sit 2009 - 2118% %
(20.835)
5% Urs Ln Sit - 250
51% Urs Ln Sit - 255 5%% Uns Ln Sik - 255 7%% Uns Ln Sik 93/98 - 297 Alvis PLC5.5% Cnv Cum Non-Vig Red Pri ET - 48 50 % I recting the State Sta Anglian Water PLC5%% Index-Linked

LnSik 2008(6 0418%) - £127%
Asda Property Hdgs PLC 10 516% 1st
Mig Deb Sik 2011 - £35%
Associated British Engineering PLC 4.9%
Cum Prf £1 - 4.3 (201483)
Attwoods PLCADR (5:1) - \$10 % \$\Phi\$
Attwoods (Phance) NV8 %p Gid Red Cre
Prf \$p - 93.45 %
Austin Reed Group PLC Ord 25p - 205
119.31283)

USAN Heed Group FCC-010 EDF - 20 (193833) Wattralie & New Zealand Bankung Gp New She SA1 (FP) (Flog) - 20 47 Automated Security/Hdgs) PLC-6% Cnv Cam Red Prl £1 - 71 1 Vodel PLC 10% Une Ln Sik 96/98 - £90 Ayrehire Metal Products PLCOrd 25p 46% (20J893) B.A T industries PLCADR (1:1) -

\$14.67459 BET PLC ADR (4·1) - 56.1 (19Ja93) BICC PLC 4.29x(Fmly 6%) 1st Cum Pri Stik 인 - 63 3.85억(Fmly 5½%) 2nd Cum Prf Stk 인 = 53 8° 7 11 Deb Sik 90/95 - £9911 BM Group PLC 4.69 (Net) Criv Cum Red Pri 20p - 46♥ BOC Group PLC ADR (1·1) - \$11.36

(20Ja93) 4.55% Cum Pri £1 - 69 (18Ja93) 2.8% Cum 2nd Pri £1 - 42 (15Ja93) 12 - 4 Uns Ln Sik 2012/17 - £121% (19Ja93) BTP PLC7 5p(Net) Cnv Cum Red Prf 10p - 157% BTR PLCWarrants 1995/96 to Sub for Ord - 117 7 8 8 .44 % .94 9 .059 20 .06 % 1

2
Wts 1997 to Sub for Ord - RM4.83 p
119 9 20 20 1.96 2 2 1.34
Ballery C H) PUC 181 Ord 10p - 17 20 2
(19Ja93)
Balles Grifford Technology PLC Warranks to
sub for Ord - 1 115Ja93)
Bampton Hidga Ld8 44 Uns Lin Sitk
200207 - 108 (20Ja93)
Bampton Properly Group Ld7 84 Uns Lin
Sit(91:96) - 172 (20Ja93)
Bank of 1961 - 172 (20Ja93)
Bank of 1961 - 172 (20Ja93)
Bank of 1961 - 182 (20Ja93) Stk(91:96) - 172 (20Ja83) ank of Ireland(Governor & Co of)Units NCP Stk Srs A 11 & 23 Liquidation -E11:-Units NCP Stk SteA In£18in£9 Uquedation - I£9.52 (20Ja98)

Bardeys Processor (**) - 524 % (201263) Bardeys Processor (**) - 524 % (201263) Bardeys Bank Processor (**) - 524 % (201263) B653 - 259 ** * * *) 12% Uns Cap Un Sik 2010 - £117 % (201263) 16° Uns Cap Lo Stk 2002/07 - £137% (183833)
Barings PLC8*, Cum 2nd Pri £1 - 97*,
91*, Non-Cum Pri £1 - 115*, 6
Bario Group PLCOrd Ir20.10 - 150.45
(20Ja93)

gano Group PLC or a zul. 14 - tul. 5 (20,193) Barr & Wallace Amold Trust PLC Ord 25p - 440 (1938) Barran Developments PLC6%% Uns Ln Stv 9297 - 560 (2038) Barrow Hepburn Group PLC7.75% Cum Pr 21 - 75 (1938) Bass PLCADR (2:1) - 517.855.9994 8 249791 (1938) 8 249391 (19Ja93) 10% % Deb Stk 2016 - £106% 10% - Dab Sol. 2016 - 1,00% 1-% - Uns Ln Sik 92:97 - E84 7-% - Uns Ln Sik 92:97 - E88% Bass Investments PLC7% - Uns Ln Sik 92:97 - 598% (18Ja83) Bellway PLC9.5% Cum Red Pri 2014 \$1 -

Bergesen d-y AS'B' Non Vig Shs NK2.5 NK95 .1 .28 .285 Bergesen d-y AS*B* Nor Vig Shis NK2.5 - NK95.1. 28.285
Bisicht Mirting PLC 100 - 20.2 (18JaS3)
Blackwood Hodge PLC9% Cum Red Pri 1 - 50 (18JaS3)
Blockbuster Entertainment CorpShis Com Six 90.10 - 519.725347
Boddington Group PLC9*% Crv Uns Ln Six 200.005 - E199 (15JaS3)
Booker PLC ADR (4.1) - S25% (18JaS3)
Booker PLC ADR (4.1) - S25% (18JaS3)
Booker OPLC ADR (2.1) - 516.17
7:% Uns Ln S& 88-93 - 195.9
Boscomba Property Co Ld5% Cum 1st Pri 21 - 80 (20JaS3)
Bowthorpe PLC 7* Uns Ln S& 9095 - 2809 Bradford & Bingley Building Society 11% Perm Int Bearing Shs £10000 - £107%

13°. Perm Int Bearing Shs £10000 -Ord - 5 ") Var Are 2nd Criv Red Pri 2000:2007 £1 8.5% 3rd Non-Cum Criv Red 2007/10

E1 - 7.7 1/1 / 8 % 8 % 8 M PLC 7 % 1/2 8 % 9 M PLC 7 % 0 Urs Ln Stk 2002/07 - E81 (18.499) 8 M PLC 8 % Curn Irrd Pri S1 - 115% % 6 1 M PLC 8 % 9 M PLC 8 % 9 M PLC 8 M 115% % 6 12%% Red Deb Sik 2004 - £117%**©** 4% Perp Deb Str - C37 (15Ja93) 4% Perp Deb Str - C37 (15Ja93) 4% Perp Deb Str - C39 (15Ja93) Iristol Water Hidgs PLC6.75% Curn Criv Red Prf 1998 Shs S1 - 160 Perm Int Bearing Shs £1000 - £108% 9

Britannia Building Society 13% Perm int Bearing Shis £1000 - £114 ' ' ' ' ' New 131. Perm int Boaring Shis £1000 - £1131 Britannic Assurance PLC5% Tax-Free Cum Pri Stk £1 British Arways PLCADR (10:1) - \$40% % British Alcan Aluminium PLC 10%- Deb Sity 2011 - £97 - (19Ja93) British & American Film Hadgs PLCOrd Sity

ritish & American Film Hadgs PLC Ord Sik 5p - 775 (15Ja93) ritish-American Tobacco Co Ld5% Cum Rriish-American Tobacco Co Ld5% Cum Prf Stk £1 - 52 6% 2nd Cum Prf Stk £1 - 62 8msn Fittings Group PLC5.5% Cnv Red Prf £1 - 63Ф 8msh Petroleum Co PLCADS(12:1) -\$42.45 (15Ja83) 8% Cum 1st Prf £1 - 86 9% Cum 2nd Prf £1 - 95 (20Ja93) 8msh Steel PLCADR (10:1) - \$8% 11% Ceb Stk 2016 - £109% .8 (20Ja93)

(201/493) (20Ja93) British Sugar PLC 10 % Red Deb Sik 2013 - £109 : . 7 % 11 British Syphon Industries PLC Ord 20p -102 (20Ja93)

(10.1) 2nd Instalment - \$41 h British Thornton Hidgs PLCOrd 5p - 13

suass) er(H.P.JHidgs PLC8%% 2nd Cum Prf ~ 109% (20Ja93) 21 - 109% (20Ja93) 9% Cum (20Ja93) 9% Cum (20Ja93) Bund PLC7% Crw Uns Ln Stk 95/97 -293 Surmah Castrol PLC7'4% Cum Red Prf £1

- 76%
8%*, Urs Ln Sik 91/96 - £99%
[19Ja93]
8um Shawart Distillers PLCOrd 10p - 137
8umdene investments PLC 15% Urs Ln
Sik 2007/12 - £18 119Ja93)
Burton Group PLC9% Criv Urs Ln Sik
1596/2001 - £89 90
RT Group PLC97 Clum Criv Red Prf
2009 10p - 57 % 8 70
Callforna Energy Co Inc Shs of Com Sik
50.0975 - \$20% (19Ja93)
Card Group PLC7c Clum Criv Red Prf
2009 10p - 57 % 8 70
Callforna Energy Co Inc Shs of Com Sik
50.0975 - \$20% (19Ja93)
Capital & Counties PLC9%% 1st Mig Deb
Six 2027 - £96
11½ % 1st Mig Deb Six 2021 - £107%
(19Ja93)
Capital Industries PLC Ord 1p - 143 50
Cardo Engineering Group PLC 10% % Cum
Red Prf 21 - 110%
Cartion Communications PLC ADR (21) £16.1 \$ 24%
7 %% Criv Subord Bds 2007(Reg £5000)
- 130%
Catarphilar Inc Shs of Com Sik \$1 - £38
Charlwood Altianca Hidge Ld 7%% Urs Ln
Six 50p - 31%
Canarter Consolidated PLC2p(Br) (Cpn 57) 84% Uns Ln Sik 91/96 - 599%

Chartwood Altence Hidge Ld 7 %% Uns Ln State Consolidated PLC2p(Br) (Cpn 57) - 865 (201393) Cheam Group PLC Ord A 1p - 201 Cheltenham & Gloucester Build Soc 11 %% Perp Int Bearing Shs £50000 - £105 % % %

Perp Int Bearing Shs 550000 - E105 x 2 \ \times on She of Com Stk \$0.33

Coastal Corporation She of Com Stk 1/3 - \$24 (15.1863) Coats Patons PLC43% Ums Ln Stk 200207 - \$60 (19.1863) 61% Uns Ln Stk 200207 - \$61 Colmanie Aleciarvestments Ld8% Uns Ln

Sit. 91/96 – £75 (15.183) Colorvision PLCOrd 5p – 102 Commercial Union PLC3.5% Cum Red Pri Commercial Union PLE3.5% Curin Head Pri F1 - 62 Bh-% Curin Irrd Pri E1 - 106% % % % % 8%% Curn Irrd Pri E1 - 110% % % % Commerchank AGCdbr(less Warburg) DM10 - E19 (18Ja53) Cookson Group PLG4 5% Gurn Pri E1 -62 (20Ja53) Cooper (Frederick) PLC6.5p (Net) Cnv Red Cum Ptg Prf 10p – 72 (15JaS3) Country Casuals Hidge PLC Ord 5p – 178 9% 80 2 2

9% 60 2 2
Courlands PLCADR (1*1) - 15 67
(18,1983)
5% Cum 1st Prt 21 - 55 (20,1983)
5% Cum 1st Prt 21 - 56 (20,1983)
7%% Deb Stx 8994 - 299 %
5%% Uns In 91% 9496 - 295
7%% Uns In 51% 9498 - 296 % 7
Courlands Clothang Brands Lid 7%% Cum
Prt 51% 21 - 70 (18,1983)
Coventry Building Society 12%%
UndatedMandatorityCnvSubNts Reg 11084 7

\$1084 74 owte(T) PLC 101/2% Cnv Red Pri \$1 -110 (19Je93) ntchiey Group PLC Ord 10p - 268 9 70 1 Crode International PLC6.6% Cum Prf £1 - 80 (18,1933) Daily Meil & General Trust PLCOrd 50p -£78 ¼ 278 %
Daily Farm International Hidgs Ld Ord \$0.05(Hong Kong Register) - \$411.7
Dailgary P.C.4.85% Cum Pri £1 - 71
(19.083)
Dares Estates P.C.7.75% Cav Cum Red Pri £1 - 210 % 40
De Seers Consolidated Mines Ld 40%
Cum Pri R5 (Br) (Cpn 168) - 300
(18.893)
Debenhams P.C.7% % 2nd Deb Stk 91/98

711% Una Lo Stk 2002/07 - £75 7% Uns Ln Six 2002/07 - E80 7% Uns Ln Six 2002/07 - E80 Jowherst Group PLC9.75% Cum Prf £1 -105% [201493] Dewharst PLC Ord 10p - 48 (191683) Deylome PLC 10% Uns Ln Six 90/95 -

Diploma PLC 10%% Una Ln Stk 90/95 -£90 (15.1893) Durskeld Group PLC Ord 10p - 31% 2 2 Durskeld Group PLC Ord 10p - 31% 2 2 Durskeld Group PLC Ord 10p - 31% 2 2 (20.1893) (20,935)
Eastbourne Water Co 10 % Red Deb Stk 95:97 - 2102:
El Oro Mining&Exploration Co PLCOrd 10p - 445 [19,193]
Electron House PLC7.5% Chr Cum Red PLC7.5 & Chr Cum Red PLC7.5 & Chr Cum Red PLC7.5 & Chr Cum Red PLC9.1 & 35 1 [19,193]
Elys/Mimbledon) PLCOrd 25p - 480
Engish Property Corp PLC9** 1st Mig Deb Stk 97:2002 - 2106
Exploration Michael PLC9** 1st Mig Deb Stk 97:2002 - 2106

Ericsson(L.M.)(Telefonaktebolaget)Ser B[Reg]SK10 - SK185% % 8 5.17 2 % % 35.37 44 % % % 7 7 Essat Water PLC10 % Dab Stk 94/96 -E104's (18Je93) Euro Disney S.C.A Shis FR10 (Depositary Roceopts) - 765 70 2 80 5 90 Shis FR10 (Rr) - FR66 27 .39 % 52 .58 Shis FR10 (Br) - FM60 27 .33 1 32 35 5.68 .8 .85 6.15 Suropa Minerals Group PLC Warrants to sub for Ord - 0.0011 European Leisure PLC 8.75p (Net) Criv European Leisure PLC 8.75p (Net) Criv Cum Red Pri 25p - 12 European Motor Hidgs PLC Ord 40p - 105 Europumel PLC Criumbanel SA Least

uropean Motor Hidgs PLC Ord 489 - 10 irrotumet PLC/Eurotunnet SA Units (1 EPLC Ord 40p & 1 ESA FR10) (8t) -FR32 95 32.98 (20.193) Units (Scovant Inscribed) - S6% FR33.12 3.95 4 Findr Wits(EPLC & TESA WritoSub 10 Units) - ES

Find WistEPLC 8 TESA Writesals to Units; - 525 1991 Wist EPLC/ESAWisub EPLC/ESAUIs(S.1) - FR20 56Ф Euston Centre Properties Ld 10 4% 1st Mig Deb Six 82997 - £100% (18Ja\$3) Evered Bardon PLC7 25p (Net) Cnr Red Pri 25p - 78 (20Ja\$3) 11 25p Cum Red Pri 2005 10p - 99% 1005; 1 1 2 3 Exploration Co PLCOrd Six 5p - 231 Embry James PLC 4.2% Curn 1st Pri Stx E1 - 50 First Chicago Corp Com Sik \$5 -\$41 2663\Phi .35\Phi Fisons PLC ADR (4.1) - £8.78 Fizaviton PLC 65% Cum Pri IRE1 -E0.46 (19./493)

FE0.45 (19Ja53) Flagstone Holdings PLCOrd 1p - 1 Folkes Group PLCOrd 5p - 43 Fone PLC 10.5% Mig Deb Str 91/96 \$100°.

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Fnendly Hotels PLC4%% Criv Cum Red
Pri E1 - 80 (19Ja93)
7% Criv Cum Red Pri E1 - 90 (19Ja93)
GKN (United Kingdom) PLC9%% Gtd Deb
Sit 91/96 - £100

Shi 91/96 - £100 1017 - Gild Deb Shi 90/95 - £100 GN Great Nordic Ld Shis DK100 - DK302 (15Ja93) G T Berry Japan Fund Ld 90 10 - \$15.34 (20Ja93) G.T Chile Growth Fund Ld Ord \$0.01 -£187: General Accident PLC8%% Cum lind Pri £1 - 1107: 77 % % General Acc Fre&Life Assc Corp PLC 77.% Uns Ln Stk 92/97 - £97% Genesis Chile Fund LdWts to Sub for Ptg Shs 50.01 - \$5% 5½ (20Ja93)

Shis S0,01 - \$5% 5% (20,183) Steisther Hidgs PLCOrd Cap 25p - 148 Globs & Dancy PLCOrd 10p - 82 (20,183) Ghywed International PLC 10% V Uns Ln Six 94/99 - £102% (20,183) Goodhead Group PLC 7% Cnv Cum Red PJ £1 - 45 Grand Matropolitan Pl C6%% Cutt Pri El - 67 (15Ja93) - 67 (15JaS3)
Gest Portland Estates PLC9.5% 1st Mtg
Deb Stk 2016 - £96.325 % (20Ja93)
Great Universal Stortes PLC5%% Red Unis
Ln Stk - £48 50 (19JaS3)
8 % Unis Ln Stk 93/98 - £95/9
Greenalts Group PLC6% Cum Prl £1 107

107 11%% Deb Sik 2014 – £116% (20Ja93) 111/% Dec 318 2014 - 1.1199 (2004)
91% Into Uns Ln St. - 231 (18.1833)
Greencore PLC Ord MT.00 - 260
Greenwich Resources PLC Ord Sp - 4%
½ 5 % (20.1833)
Greyonat PLGS% Curn Red Pri 2014 £1
- 20%

- 20%
Guardan&Manchester Evening News PLC
4% Cum Pri \$1 - 40Φ
Guinness PLC ADR (5:1) - \$35.2.35
Gurmess Fight Global Strategy FdPtg
Red Pri \$0.01(Euro High Inc Bd Fd) \$23.02 (20.1883)
Pig Red Pri \$0.01(U K Fund) - \$21.81
(19.1893)

4 % 1 1 % 2 Ord \$H10 - 510 % 1 % 2 2 3 3 % 4 5 5 8 9 4 4 20 4 % 1 2 2 3 5 5 % 8 4 % 7 7 8 05 % 9% 30 % 1 1 2 % 3 rs up 'n sy. 30 % 1 1 2 % 3 Ord \$410 (Horn Kong Reg) = \$146.0303 60 .3 .3 .301248 .303 .303 .3045 .45 h 6 .6 .655775 .7 .7 .9 1 1 .1 .1 .15 .2 .2 3 .35908 % h, 5056 .8 .85 .7 .7 2 .134965

x Building Society 12% Perm Int ring She £1 (Reg 550000) - £115 ngineering(Hidgs)PLC 5.55% Cum Pri 62 Tall professions, in space 255.5% Cum Pri St - 62
Haistead, lames) Group PLC5.5% Cum Pri St - 55 6 (18.1893)
Hammerson Prop Inv&Dev Corp PLCOrd 25p - 277 82
Hardys & Hansons PLCOrd 5p - 285
Harrisgton Kilbride PLCOrd 5p - 172
Harrisgon Industries PLCOrd 10p - 3% 4 % 5 %
Harrisgools Water CoOrd Sit - £1101
(18.1833)
Hastero IncShe of Com Sit \$0.50 - \$34.4357, 4566 (19.1833) (18.493) Hastro IncShs of Com Stk \$0.50 -\$24.4357 .4586 (19.1853) Hawtin PLC4.55% Cum Pri £1 - 51

(cusass)
Hepworth Capital Pinance Ld 11,25% Cnv
Cap Bds 2005 (Reg) - 123% 4 %
Hewitt Group PLC 10% Curn Prf 21 - 114
(19Jass)
Hickson International Parcause Six 9994 - 296% (15.2693) Higgs & Hit PLC7% Curn Pri £1 - 63 (20.263) High Gostorin Park PLCOrd £1 - £20 (20.2633) erment Trust PLCOrd 25p own Hidgs PLCADR(4:1) - \$8.8

Hillsdown Hidgs PLCADR(4:1) - 58.8 (19Ja93)
House of Fraser PLC8%% Uns Ln Stk 98798 - 298 (20Ja93)
Housing Finance Corporation Ld 11%% Deb Stk 2016 - 2108.325 % (20Ja93)
IAWS Group PLC8% Subord Cnv Uns Ln Nts Irt1 - 581 (15Ja93)
IS Himalayan Fund NVOns FL.0.01 - 27% testand Frozen Foods Hidgs PLCCrw Cum Red Pri 20p - 172% 3 4 % 5 Bingworth Morris Ld6%% Cum Pri Stk \$1 - 42 (15Ja93) ingworth.Morris Luc-- 42 (15Ja53) 6½% Cum 2nd Pr(Stk £1 - 42 (15Ja93) 15akurs) Ld7% Hingworth Monts (Saltaire) Ld7% Non-Cum Prf 50p - 20 (20Ja93) Inchcape PLC 124% Uns Ln 50: 93/98

10p - 152 3 6 7

Irish Liše PLC Ord M0.10 - 121.52 1.525
1.53 1.54 p 163 % 4 %

JF Pacific Warrant Co SA Wha to Sub for Ord(Reg) - 15 (20.1353)
JRB Group PLC Ord 10p - 175 6 7% 8 80
Jardine Matheson Hidgs Ld Ord 50.25
(Hong Kong Register) - £3.9 3.91 \$148
% Jardine Strategic Hidgs Ld Ord \$0.05 (Hong Kong Register) - SH22.08898 Jessups PLC7.3p (Net) Cnv Cum Red Prf 50p - 81 (18J393) Jeyes Group PLCOrd 5p - 495 5 Johannesburg Cons Invest Co LdR0.10 -57% R 56%

on & Firth Brown PLC 11% Uns Li

SB, 93/98 - 294 Shrison Group Cleaners PLG7.5p (Net) Criv Curn Red Pri 10p - 150 (20JeS3)

Johnson, Metthey PLC8% Cnv Cum Pri £1 – 840 Keppel Corporation LdOrd S51 – \$55,51326 **Xepotent Engineering Co. 255.

Keppel Corporation LdOrd S51 \$55.5122\(\phi\)
Kingsley & Forester Group PLC3.85%
Cum Prf £1 - 30
Klearfold IncShe of Com Six \$0.01 - 11
(20.1e93)
Kletrecht Endowment Policy Tst PLCOrd
100 - 105 5 (20.1e83)
Korse-Europe Fund LdShs(IDR to Br)
\$0.10 (Cpn 5) - £2725\(\phi\)
Kreemer A.S. Free A. Shs NK12.50 NK166 % 7
8 Shs NK12.50 - NK182.51 4 5
Ladbroke Group PLCADR (1:1) - \$2 85
(19.1e83)
Land Securities PLC6% 1st Mtg Deb Stk.
8893 - £2807 (15.1e93)
7 % 1st Mtg Deb Stk 91/96 - £98%
(16.1e83)

(16.1695) 9% 1st Mtg Deb Sik 96/2001 - £101% 2% 2% Uns Ln Stk 92/97 - 999'; k Laporte Amalgameton PLC 10% Deb Stk 94/99 - £103 (20/983) LASMO PLC 10% Deb Stk 2009 -£104% (20/983) Lebin American Extra Yield Fund Units -

£104% (20.850)
Letin American Extra Yield Fund Units - \$8.872125 (19.850)
Lebowa Pristrum Mines Ld Ord R0.01 - 5 (15.850)
Leb Valley Walter Ld 8% Red Deb Stk \$2744 - £100 (20.850)
Leeds & Holbeck Building Society 13% Rem int Bearing Sits £1000 - £114 % Rem int Bearing Sits £1000 - £127% % [19.850]
Leving (John) PLC 7% Cum Pri Stk £1 - 68 (18.850)
Lewing (John) Partnership PLC 5% Cum Pri Stk £1 - 521% Leving (John) Partnership PLC 5% Cum Pri Stk £1 - 521% Leving (John) Porportes PLC 5% % Mig Deb

- £105½ 1044-1st Mig Deb Stk 2024 - £108½ 8% Uns Lin Stk 2000:05 - £91 (cAlpme(Alfred) PLC9% Cum Pri £1 - 89 (150833) McCarthy & Stone PLC8.75% Cum Red McCarthy & Stone PLL8.73** Cum Heat Pri 2003 £7 = 23 7*5 Cmv Ums Ln St. 99/04 = £27 & 31 2 Marchester Ship Canal Co5** Perp Pri £1 - £12*; (15Ja93) 4% Perp Deb St. - £35 (20Ja93) Manchester United PLCOrd 10p - 373 Mandarin Onental International LdOrd S0.05 (Bermuda Reg) - \$48.275 (15Ja93)

(15.la93) Ord \$0.05 (Hong Kong Reg) -SH7.73891449 Mansfield Brewery PLCOrd £1 - 572 80 Marks & Spencer PLCADR (8:1) - \$28% (19,1493) 7% Cum Pri E1 - 80 (15,1493) Aarshalis PLC 10% Cum Pri E1 - 100 Marson, Thompson & Evershed PLC7% Uns Ln Stk 93/98 - 988 (19Ja93) Medeva PLCADR (4:1) - \$13

Unis Lin Sit (978) - 1.00 (134884)
Mediterransen Fund LidDepositary
Warrants (Br) - 53 (181853)
Morchant Retail Group PLC8%* Cnv Unis
Lin Sit (9804) - 582 (201853)
Mercury International Inv Trust Lid Phy Red
Pri 1p (Combinental Europe Fund) 271.53 (151853)
Prig Red Pri 1p (Reserve Fund) 251.529 (191853)
Mercury Selected Trust Sits NPV Japan
Fund(Reg) - 518.04 (191853)
Mersey Dotte & Harbour Co6%* Red
Deb Sit (9497) - 293 (191893)
Mersey Dotte & Harbour Co6%* Red
Deb Sit (9497) - 293 (191893)
Sits Ind Deb Sit (9599) - 293
31% Ind Deb Sit (9599) - 293
31% Ind Sits (91983)
101% Subord Unis Lin Sit (9399) 2101% 2%
Morton Sundour Fabrics Ld5% Cum 1st

dour Fabrics Ld5% Cum 1st Pri £1 - 50 (18.893)

Mount Charlotte Investments PLC 10%% 1st Mag Deb Sit 2014 - £102% NMC Group PLC Warrante to sub for Sits - 40 (20.893) 7.75p (Net) Cum Red Chv Pri 10p - 67% 97 70 National Medical Enterprises IncSts of Com Sit \$0.05 - \$10% .688 % (15.883) National Westminister Bank PLC 7% Cum Pri £1 - 68% (20.893) 9% Subord Units Ln Sit 1993 - £99% 100% % Pri £1 - 50 (18Ja93

2"1% Subord Uns Ln Stk 2004 -New Central Wawatersrand Areas Ld R0.50 - £3% .4 (19.1293) Newcastle Building Society 12% Perm Interest Bearing Shs £1000 - £112% 3 News International PLC7% 1st Cum Pri £1

- 90
8*- 2nd Cum Pri £1 - 69
Norsk Datz AS Class 'B' (Non Vigi NK2 - NK1.09 (19.483)
North East Water PLC8.25*: Red Deb Stk 1992/94 - £100 (20.4859)
North Housing Association Ld Zero Cpn Ln Stk 2027 - 225 (18.4859)
North Motion Construction PLC Ord 100 to ATE Unis Lin Sitk 91/96 - 195% (18Ja93) Unilever PLC ADR (4:1) - 567.02Ф 51/4 Unis Lin Sitk 91/2006 - 1972 (18Ja93) 3% Unis Lin Sitk 91/2006 - 194 % % 5 Unisever NVOrd FL4 (Cpr 111 - 199-3333 Union interretional Co PLC6% Cum Pri Sitk 11 - 29 (15Ja93) Unitys Corp Cum Sitk 50.01 - 198 % \$ 12% 8 North Midland Construction PLC Ord 10p North of England Building Society 12%%
Perm Int Beering (£1000) - £110% %
Novo Group PLC Ord 5p - 38 % 9
Ocean Wilsons Hidgs Ld Ord 20p - 37 7

43
dia Coart Currency Fund Lid Ptg Red Pri
\$0.01(Starfang) = 237.587037 (18Jas/3)
Oporto Growth Fund Lid Ptg Red Pri \$0.01
(Reg) = \$4%
Ossary Essites PLCOrd 25p = 8 % %
Owen & Robinson PLC8%% (Net) Criv
Curri Red Pri \$1 = 22 (20Jas/3)
P & O Property Holdings Lid 8% Lins Ln
Sitk 97/99 = £87
Paofile Gas & Bisciric Co She of Com Sit
\$5 = \$3300
Paramount Communications Inc Corn Sit

to sub for Ord - 15 7 Van Diemen's Land Co"A" 25p - 17 (15Je93) Vaux Group PLC41/2% A Cum Pri £1 -Paramount Communications Inc Com Stk Value Group PLC***

46% A Cum Pri St - 68

9.875% Deb Stk 2015 - £101% (19Jx89)

10.75% Deb Stk 2015 - £101% (19Jx89)

10.75% Deb Stk 2019 - £108.45 %

(20Jx83)

Vickers PLC5% Cum(Tax Free To 30p)Pri
Stk 51 - 68 (19Jx83)

Vodalone Group PLCADR(10:1) - \$59 9

.02 % % % 498015 % % .52 % % .79

.98 .998 60 % %

Velax Group PLC7% Cum Pri £1 - 62 \$1 - \$43%\text{\$\Psi\$} \)
Park Food Group PLCOrd 20 - 215 8 20
Parkland Textle(Hidgs) PLCOrd 25p - 155
Page-son Zochonis PLC7%\text{\$\Psi\$} Cum Pri £1
- 22% - 92% 10% Cum Prf £1 - 122 3 Pearson PLC5.675% Una Ln Stk 88/93 -297 8.25% Uns Un Sik 88/93 - 599% 8.27% Uns 51 of 194831 9.3% Uns Ln 56 96/2001 – E99 Peel Hidge PLC5 25% (Net) Criv Gum Non-Vig Pri 21 – 65 9 Peninsular & Oriental Susam Nev Co5% Cum Pri 58t – E52 2 Parkurs Foods PLC 3p(Net) Cum Criv Red

(20Ja93) Nation(Thomas) PLC Ord Sp - 23 (20Ja93) Nationg (S.G.) Group PLC 7%% Cum Pri Perkins Foods PLCBPInnes, Pri 10p – 92 % Perrofins S.A. Ord Shis NPV (Br in Denom 1.5 & 10) - BF7552 80 Pritard Gerner PLC95/% Cum Pri 21 - 88 T1 - 101 I p - 279%
Waste Management International PLC Ord 10p - 725 37 2 5 8
Waterfelde International Hidge PLC7.75% Crv Cure Red Pri 1 - 10
Waterfelde (Hidge) PLC8% Cure Red Pri 2008 £1 - 101 %
Waterfelde Menno Enence PLC Warrants to (19.1233)
Pantsbrook Group PLC9,75% Cum Pri 21 - 1
(19.1233)
Pantsbrook Group PLC9,75% Cnv Pri
91/2001 10p - 82 3 (18.1253)
Pastgnum PLC Ord 10p - 36 7 40
Pokphand (C.P.) Co Ld Shs \$0.05 (Hong
Kong Registersel) - 51-3,3333
Portugese Investment Fund Ld Ord \$0.01
(Br) - \$427
Potgleter an et Pants (Br) = \$4271 Potgletersrust Platinums Ld Ord R0.025 -122 (19Ja93)

Rotork PLC95% Cum Prf £1 - 104

7': (20488)
Sastchi & Sastchi Co PLCADR (3:1) 57'% (19483)
6% Crv Urs Ln Str 2015 - 149
(20483)
Sainsbury(J) PLCADR (1:1) - \$8.85
(19483)
8% Ind Uns Ln Str - 192

2006 £1 - 101 ½
Waverley Minning Finance PLC Warrants to
sub for Ord - 2 (18Ja93)
Wellcome PLCADR (1:1) - \$14 4.05 .1 .11
Wells Fargo & Company She of Com Sit
\$5 - \$97 %
Westland Group PLC Warrants to sub for
Chd - \$40 122 (1934873)
Ouadrant Intercondinental Fund Ld Shs 50.10(Fer Eastern Shs) - Ct.819193 (153893)
(153893)
Charto Group Inc8.75p(Net)
ChricumRedShs of Pid Stk 50.10 - 115 (153893)
Oueans Most Houses PLC 104% 1st Mtg
Deb Stk 2020 - 039% (2034893)
12% 1st Mtg Deb Stk 2013 - £112
Quetes Group PLC 10% Cam Prf £1 - 103
R.E.A.Hdos PLC 9% Cam Prf £1 - 63 Westrand Crosp. ___ Ord - 46 7%% Criv Cum Pri £1 - 150 7½% Criv Cum Pri £1 - 150 12% Deb Six 2008 - £112 3 Milhtread PLCB Ord 250 - £10% 5½% 3rd Cum Pri 5k £1 - 55 5½% trd Cum Pri 5k £1 - 55 5½% trd Urs Ln Six 95/99 - £95 (20183) 7½% Urs Ln Six 95/99 - £95 (20183) 7½% Urs Ln Six 95/2000 - £99% (181883) 10½% Chs Ln Six 2000/05 - £108% Midney PLCB.76% Criv Cum Red 2nd Pri 2000 £1 - 41 Cuides Group PLC 10% Com Pri E1 - 163
REA Hidgs PLC 9% Cum Pri E1 - 163
RPH L18% Deb 38: 92/96 - 229
4% Lins Ln 58: 92/2004 - 296 8%
Racal Electronics PLC ADR (2*1) - \$5.2
Revice Hoves MeDougal PLC 8% Uns Ln
Sit 90/94 - 5/96% (18.1953)
8/% Uns Ln 58: 91/95 - 5/98
Ransomes PLC 8.25p (Net) Cum Criv Pri
12.5p - 43 % 7 8 2000 E1 - 41 Wiggins Group PLCOrd 10p - 4 Williams Hidgs PLC 104% Cum Pri E1 -

131% Willia Corroon Group PLCADR (5:1) -E14.48
Woodcombers Group PLC7%% Cum Pri
Sitk £1 - 60 (15.1e33)
6% Cum 2nd Pri Sitk £1 - 48.50
(15.1e33)
Wrexham & East Denb Water Co4.9%
PtPg Ord Sitk - £2100 (19.1e33) Ransomes PLC8.25p (Net) Cum Cnv PTI 12.5p - 43 ½ 7 8 Recistr & Colman PLC5% Cum Pti 11 -53 (15.Ja83) 53 (15.165)
Reed International PLC3.15%(Fmly 4%%)
Cum Red Prf £1 - 46%Φ
4.9% (Fmly 7%) Cum Prf £1 - 71%
(18.165)
Rendel PLC6% Cum Prf 5th £1 - 57
(18.165)
Rendel PLC6% Cum Prf 5th £1 - 57
(18.165)
Rendelf Group PLC Ord 2p - 214.992 5
292 % 6 8 108 349 369 7 7 .106 8 8 9
Rételf Corporation PLC 4.55% (Fmly 6%%)
Cum Prf £1 - 61 PiPg Ord Sik - £2100 (19.4853)
Xerox Corp Com Sik S1 - £534 (20.483)
York Waterworks PLCOrd 10p - 205
(18.483)
Yorkshire-Tyne Tees TV Hidgs PLCWts to
sub for Ord - 7% 8% 10%
Yute Carto & Co PLC 11%% Cum Red Prf
1998/2003 £1 - 118 (20.1893)
Zembia Consolidated Copper Mines Ld*8*
Ord K10 - FR4.9 p 210 25 Relei Corporation PLC 4.55% (Fmly 6%%) Cum Prl \$1 - 61 4.55% (Fmly 6%%) Cum 3rd Prl £1 - 62 Rosebys PLC Ord 25p - 122 4 5 7 8 Rose Group PLC Ord 5p - 31% 2 3 4 Rotherens International PLC B Ord 6.25p -592 86 3 215 4 4 5 5 % 6 7 7 % 8 8

investment Trusts

No. of bargains included 1733 Bailtie Gifford Japan Trust PLCWits to Sub Beilie Gifford Japon Trust PCC Was to Sub Ord Shis - 36 Beilie Gifford Shin Nippon PLC Warrants to sub for Ord - 42 (191863) Baring Tribuna Investment Trust PLC 9%% Deb Sk 2012 - £38% British Assets Trust PLC Squitles Index ULS 2005 10p - 135% (151863) British Investment Trust PLC11.125% Secured Deb Skt 2012 - £113% (16Ja93)
Royof Benk of Scottend Group PLC51/%
Cam Pri £1 - 83 (18Ja93)
Royal Insurance Holdings PLC71/% Cov
Subord Bds 2007 (Br £ Var) - £1081/
Rubicon Group PLC0/d 10p - 130 2 3 4
Rugby Group PLC6% Uns Ln Stk 93/98 £09 (20Ja93)
SHK Indonesia Fund Ld Ord \$1 - \$87/ 7 7
73/ (20Ja93)
Saatch & Saatchil Co. 85 6 5 5 5 5 (15.1993) C.S.C. Investment Trust PLCOrd 25p - 73 (15.1993) (15Ja93)
Capital Gearing Trust PLCOrd 25p - 385
(18Ja93)
Consolidated Venture Trust PLC Series
120 Wit to sub for Ord - 145
County Smaller Co's Inv Tat PLC Wes to
Sub for Ord - 73 (15Ja93)
Dance Investment Trust PLCWs to (18,0353) 8% Intd Uns Ln Stk - E82 Salvasan (Christian) PLC5.6% Cum Pri £1 - 77% 8% (19,1893)

Sanderson Murray&Elder[Midgs]PLCOrd

1Cp - 105 Savoy Hotel PLC8": "6 Uns Lr. 5tk 93-98 599":

Seroy Hotel PLCS*** Unit D. Sam Red 1995*
Schneders S. J. & Sch. Ldf**- Cam Red Pri(2000 or alter)**1 – 45 (2018:53)
Schol PLCS**- Cam Red Pri 2001:05 21 – 101**:2 2**; 85 (1938:53)
5**- Corr Cum Red Pri 2006:11 £1 – 95
Schroders PLCS*- Unit Ln Set 97:2002 – 285** (2018:53)
Scottish Astan Investment Co LdWarrarus to sub for Pri Shs – \$33**
Scottish Metropolitan Property PLC10***191 Mrg Deb Stit 2016 – £91**
Scottish & Newcastle PLC4 6**- Cum Pri £1 – 68 (1818:53)

E1 - 68 (18Ja93) 7.6% 151 Milg Deb StA 89:94 - 598

7.5°-, 157 Mg Dec Six os-s - 1-5 (15.485)
Pi Criv Cum Pri St - 2019
Seagram Distillers PLC 12%45 Deb Six
2012 - £12014
Sears PLC4.9°-, (Frally Pra) "A" Cum Pri £1 - 70 (18.485)
Sheafbank Property Trust PLC6°4 Cum
Pre Pri 1 - 40

heathank Property Trust PLC6% Cum Chy Pff £1 - 40

Chir Pri £1 – 40

Shek Transport&TraungCo PLCOrd Shs
(B1) 250 (Con 189) – 518":
Shield Group PLCOrd 5p – 5 9":
Siam Smaller Companies Fund LdOrd
\$0.01 - \$9.47150

\$0.01 - \$9.4715© Sidaw Group PLC7½** Lins Ln Stk 2003:05 - \$77 (15.1853) Simon Engineering PLC5 4** Cum Pri £1

- 72 Sındalî (William) PLC 5.625° a Criv Cum Red

- 72
Sandal (Walliam) PLC 5.625° Crav Cum Red Pri £1 - 53 (19.1693)
600 Group PLC 4.55° Crav 2nd Pri £1 - 47° (15.1693)
Standa Group Insurance Co Ld Shs SK5 - 5K96 8
Supton Enidong Society 12° % Permi Int Bearing Shs £1000 - £10812 % %
Smith 8 Nephew PLC Ord 10p - 155 .031
31° 58° 7 7 .08 % % %
50° 5 Cum Pri £1 - 53
Smith New Court PLC 12° 8 Sobord Uns Ln Sk 2001 - £98 (19.1628)
Smith New Court PLC 12° Tord 10p - 89
(20.1679)
Smith New Beachant PLC ADR (5° 1) - 50
SmithNine Beachant PLC ADR (5° 1) -

mathkins Beacham PLCADR (5:1) -\$37 978727Ф ВФ 02Ф 123729Ф 4Ф mathkins Beacham PLC/Smathkins ADR

Strativitine Beecham PLC/SmithKine ADR 16:11 - 533: 235 2 % % % Smiths Industries PLC111 % Deb Six. 95:2000 - 2103 (18.483) South Staffordshare Water Hidgs PLCWIs to Sub for Circl - 675 (15.483) Southerd Property Holdings PLCPld Stip - 22 (18.483) Speyhawk PLC9.75% Curn Red Pri 2014 51 - 8 9 Stag Furnicate Hidgs PLC11% Curn Pri 51 - 120 1 (19.483)

£100° (15J893) 114% Mag Deb Sak 95/2000 - £103%

11% 1. Step Deb Sal 95/2000 - 21037/
(20.1493)
TI Group PLC Ord 25p - 297 7, 55 8, 3977
9, 15, 599, 85, 300, 300, 15 %, 1, 1, 2, 2, 15, 32, 3, 3, 4
TR Worldwide Strategy Fund Scaw Sits
NPV (Legan Fund) - 62, 34 (15,1483)
She NPV (Rorth America Fund) - 151 ½
(20.1493)
TSB Gat Fund Ld Plo Red Pri 1p(Classa 167
Pg Red Pri) - 105/46 (161,195)
TSB Group PLC 101/1/2 Subord Ln Stic
2008 - 2105/3, 7%
Talkare PLC 11,8% 1st Mag Deb Stic 2014
- 2106 7 %, 5 (19,1433)
Tab & Lybe PLC ADR (4/1) - 524.65

- 2106 7% 9 (19.5293) Tate & Lyle PLC ADR (4:1) - \$24.65 Taunton Gder PLC Ord 10p - 186 5 7 7 8 9 90 90 2

Taylor Nelson AGB PLCOrd Sp - 18% %

Telegraph PLC Ord 10p - 340 1 3 5 Tesco PLC 4% Uns Deep Disc Ln Stk 2005 - 556 % (20Ja93)

SO.01 (IDR's to 8d) - \$19000 Cove Investments PLCOrd 50p

SULT (DUR 5 to 81 - a 1900)
Thempson Crive Investments PLC Ord 50p - 127 8 (20Ja93)
31 PLC 71*4" A*7 Deb Sti. 91:94 - 298%
94 "A* Deb Sti. 91:94 - 299
Thwaltes(Daniel) PLC 5% 1st Curn Pri £10

Tootal Group PLC71/2% Uns Lin Sit 89/94

Total Group PLCT%", Uns Ln Sit 89/94
- 139
Tope Estates PLC1014% 1st Mit Deb Sit 2011-16 - 138 (19.483)
Tomoto Grey & Bruce Rathway Co 4% 1st Mig Bds (2883) (Cpn 219) - 138 (18.483)
Towles PLC"A" Non.V.Ord 10p - 90
Town Centre Securities PLC5% Criv Uns Ln Sit 96/2000 - 1170 (19.483)
Tratalgar House PLC5.5/5% Cum Prf E1 - 86 (15.183)
T% Lins Deb Sit E1 - 82 (18.1839)

- or (154293) % Uns Deb Stk £1 - 82 (184393) % Uns Lin Stk 200015 - 288 1% Uns Lin Stk 20015 - 283 4% 14439] utlands 144

(20Ja93) ansadenbo Holdings PLCA Criv Pri 50p - 22.7 (19Ja93) 3 6% Criv Pri 57 - 84% 5

Transfer Technology Group PLCOrd 50p - 430 2 5 5 6 7 Unique PLC 4575 Cum Pri £1 - 77 575 Uns Ln Sth 91/96 - 930 (20Ja83) 6/%- Unique FLC 4575 Cum Pri £1 - 77 575 Uns Ln Sth 91/96 - 935 (20Ja83) 6/%- Unique En Sth 91/96 - 935% (18Ja93)

United Biscuits(Hidgs) PLC 6% Deb Sik

93/98 - 5964

93/98 - 1994

Uns Lin Sitk 2000/05 - 262

Vach Holdings Ld Ord 50,05 (London Reg)
- 48 (18383)

Value & Income Trust PLCWarrants 89/94

De 48 (18 CON)

- Co n (curess)
Texaco internatoral Financial Corp8%
S6gS Cnv Gid Ln Str 8199 - £120
Thailand international Fund Ln Pin She

Subscribe for 1 Inc. & 1 Cap = 37 & 9 (15Jasi3)
East German Investment Tst PLC Ord 259 = 85 (26Jas3)
English National Investment Co PLC 91/14
Deb Stk 91/95 = 297 (15Jas3)
Fidelity European Values PLC Equity
Linked Uns Lin Sit 2001 = 113 (20Jas3)
Fifth Throgmorton Co PLC 7.25% Cnv Uns
Lin Sit 2003 = 21147/
Firisbury Smaller Co's Trust PLC 2ero Div
Prt 259 = 167 81/
Flemming Japanese Inv Trust PLC Wis to
Sub for Ord = 24 6 5 %
Foreign & Coll Invest Trust PLC 35% (Finity
5%) Cum Prt Sit £1 = 52½
Garmore Value Investments PLC Zero
Dwidend Prt 10p = 86 %
Glasgow Income Trust PLC Warrants to
sub for Ord = 07 (19Jas3)
Henderson Strata Investments PLC
Warrants to Sub for Ord = 80 (18Jas9)
Investors Capata Trust PLC51/16 Cum Prt
Sit = 2547 (19Jas3)
Jos Hidgs PLC Cap 10p = 35% 40
Into 20p = 95
Jupiter European Invest Trust PLC Zero
Div eff 1p = 44% inic zup – 95
Jupiter European Invest Trust PLC Zero
Div Pri 1p – 44%
Lazard Select Investment Trust Ld Ptg Red
Pri 0.1p Global Active Fund – \$10.79
10.84

10.84
Pig Red Pri 0.1p U.K. Active Fund \$11.77 11.77 11.79
Pig Red Pri 0.1p U.K. Liquid Assets
Fund - 210 p 986
Pig Red Pri 0.1p U.K. Index Fund \$2.85 12.9

Pig Red Pri 1.1p U.K. mices Pulls 12.85 12.9
Loyde Smaller Co's Inv Tst PLCCapital
She 1p - 58% (19Ja93)
London & St Lawrence Investment PLC
Ord Sp - 123% (20Ja93)
London & Stratincyler Trust PLC5% Cum
Pri Stk - 251
Multiprast PLCOrd 25p - 39
Murray Income Trust PLC4.25% Cum
Pri Et - 525 (19Ja93)
Murray International Trust PLC3.9% Cum
Pri Et - 55 (15Ja93)
Murray Smaller Markete Trust PLC4.1%
Cum
Pri Et - 51 (20Ja93)
Murray Smaller Markete Trust PLC4.1%
Cum
Pri Et - 81 (20Ja93)
New Guernsey Securities Trust Ld Ord 25p
- 83 (20Ja93) w Guernsey Se - 83 (20Ja93) - 88 (20.1953)
New Throgmorton Trust(1983) PLC 12.6%
Deb Six 2008 - £111 2 (19.1953)
Zero Cpn Deb Six 1998 - £62Φ
Normern Indust Improv Trust PLC Ord £1
- 380 (15.1965)
Debtor Exerch Procestiment Trust PLC SerS

- 380 (15Ja83)
Pentes French knessment Trust PLC Sers
-A' Warrants to sub for Ord - 17
Sers 'B' Warrants to sub for Ord - 12
Rights and issues inv Trust PLC5%'
Cum Prf 21 - 77 (15Ja83)
Schroder Korne Fund PLCCvd \$0.01 (Reg)
- \$9% % (20Ja83)
Scottish American knessment Co PLC
Equities Index Uns Ln Sik 2004 - 128
(15Ja83)
Scottish Eastern Inv Trust PLC6VG

Equities Index Uns Ln SN 2004 - 120
(15.1aS3)
Scottish Eastern law Trust PLC 9%% Deb
Six 2020 - E1011/96 2% PLC 9%% Deb
Six 2020 - E1011/96 2% PLC 4%% Ind
Deb Six - 244 (18.1a93)
6-12% Siepped int Deb Six 2026 E120% (18.1a93)
Scottish National Trust PLC 10% Deb Six
2011 - £103% (20.1a53)
Sarres High-Yistching Smitr Co's Tst PLC
Ord 509 - 106 % 12%
Wits to Sub for Ord - 18
Shiras Investment PLC Warrants to sub for
Ord - 46
Throgmorbot 1000Smallest Co's Tst PLC
Wits to Sub for Ord - 13 (20.1a53)

Throgmorbo 1000 Smallest Co 31 to 17 Co.
Whis to Sub for Ord - 13 (201693)
Whis to Sub for Ord - 13 (201693)
Throgmorbo Trust PLC 12 576% Deb St.
2010 - \$118% (201893)
Trust of Property Shares PLC Warrants to
sub for Ord - 15 (181893)
Updown Investment Co PLC Ord 25p -Sub for Gar Updown Investment Co PLC 0rd 25p -480 (15.1953) Witam Investment Co PLC 3.4% Cum Pri 21 - 50 (18.1953) 81% Deb Stk 2015 - £927, 37

Miscellaneous Warrants Australia & New Zealand Banking GpLd Wis Ring to Coles Myer Ord 26/9/94 -\$41.9 (18Jess) Citherik N.A. C PufftrsReito FT-SE 100 Index 15/12/93 - £0.03

USM Appendix No. of bargains included 586

Apollo Metals PLC Big(Net) Curr Criv Red
Prit 10p - 125 (20Ja93)
BLP Group PLC Ord 50p - 30 (19Ja83)
Banner Homes Group PLC Ord 10p - 23
Backentam Group PLC 8% Red Curr
Non-Vrg Pri £1 - 57% 80

CAW Group PLC Ord 5p - 25%

CRP Letsure PLC Ord 5p - 9 (20Ja83)
Chemist International PLC Ord 1p - 4%

Cooper Clarks Group PLC 0rd 50p - 28

31
Group PLC Wits to sub for Ord - 2%

F80 Holdings PLC Ord 1r9.50 - 181.22

F80 Holdings PLC Ord 1r9.50 - 181.22

FBD Holdings PLCOrd In20.50 - IE1.22 Flextech PLCOrd 10p - 80 1 5 Gibbs Mew PLCOrd 25p - 162 (20Je83) Grosvenor This PLCOrd 10p - 99

(20.93)
Guardian Group PLCOrd 5p - 9
Hughas (T.J.) PLCOrd 10p - 90 1 1
Md-States PLCOrd 10p - 37 % 8 % % 9 FT-SE ACTUARIES INDICES

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(15Ja93)

Dewison Hidge PLC Ord 10p - 23.1 3 15

Ellot (8) PLC 7.5% (Net) Criv Curn Red Pri £1 - 570 2 (18Ja93)

Gander River Resources PLC Ord 5p - 20.625 (19Ja93)

General Portlolo Group PLC Ord 5p - 21.84 (15Ja93)

Guernsey Gas Light Co Ld'Ord 10p - 20.48 (18Ja93)

Henry Croise Group B. C.C. Criv Call 100

Harry

Guerrisey Gas Light Co Lidron top – £0.48 (18Jas93)
Henry Cooke Group PL_COrd 10p – £0.3 (NVESCO MIM International Ld Japan Income & Growth – £1.354 Jersey New Waterworks Co Ld3% Cum 2nd Pri £5 – £0.8 3% 3rd Cum Pri £5 – £1.4 (Delmuort Benson(Int) Fund Men KB Gät Fund – £14.35 Int Equity Gwith Inc – £2.18140 Lg Riche's Stores LdOrd £1 – £2.240 Mariu & Overseas PLCOrd 5p – £0.045 (15Jas93) |15Ja93|
Merrett Hidge PLCOrd 10p - £0.38
(15Ja93)
National Parking Corp LdOrd 10p - £3.15
(18Ja93)
Navispager Publishing PLCOrd 1p - £1.38
1.45 (19Ja93) 1.45 (19Ja93) North East Water PLC Ord \$1 - 55% n Andean Resources PLC Ord 1p

Middend & Scottish Resources PLC Ord 100 - 17½ 9 Porth Group PLC Ord 20p - 6 Savage Group PLC 65% (Net) Curn Red Cry Pr £1 - 67 (20193) Saateid Resources PLC Ord 10p - 52

(19.493)
Tepnel Dagnostics PLCOrd 1p - 190
Total Systems PLCOrd 5p - 75
Union Square PLCOrd 1p - 3 (18.493)
Versy Group PLCOrd 5p - 9 10 (18.493)

No. or bergains included \$3

All England Lawn Tennis Ground LoDeb g1/95 52000 - £13000 (154993)

Ann Street Browenes Co Ld Ord £1 - £3 55 (154993)

Arsenal Football Club PLC Ord £1 - £250

Bardays Investment Fund(C.) Sterling Bd Fd - £0,444 (184993)

Biocure Holdings PLC Ord 10 - £0 73 (184993)

(18.1a93) Channel Islands Come (TV) Ld Ord 5p -£0.33 (18.1a53) Cosalt PLC 5.25°s Gunt Pri £1 - £0.38

Rule 535(2) No. of bargains included 33

Pan Andean Resources PLC Ord 1p - £0 %
Perpetual(Jersey) Offshone UK Growth - \$2,1715 (20,373)
Rangers Football Club PLC Ord 10p - £1
Regent Irns PLC Ord 25p - £0.84 0.85 0 9
Romschild Asset Management(Child Court Major UK Co's Fund - £0 8887 (20,1953)
Scoba Holdings PLC Ord 10p - £6.2
Select Industries PLC Ord 2°: p - £0.055
0.66 0.066625 0.065
New Ord 7::p(2°: ip Regd) - £0 01625
0.02 (20,1863)
Shepherd Neartie Ld'A' Ord £1 - £4.9
Southern Newspapers PLC Ord £1 - £3.1
Sun Oil Britain Ld On Royally Six Units 1p - £0.45 (18,1883)
Threates(Dansel)& Co PLC Ord 25p - £1% (20,1983)

(20Ja93) - E2 2 (20Ja93) ਪ੍ਰਦਾਪਤਾਮ) Vista Entertainments PLC Ord 5p - 0 2576 (201a93) (20,593)
Weetably Ld*A* Non.V Ord 25p - £12%
12.28 12.3 (19,1353)
Yates Bros Wine Lodges PLCOrd 25p - £1.1 1.15 (15,1893)
RULE 535 (4) (8)

RULE 535 (4) (8)

Bargains marked in securities where principal market is outside the UK and Republic of Ireland. Quotation has not been granted in London and dealings are not recorded in the Official List.

recorded in the Official List.

Aust. Foundation for 70 (18/1)
Aust. 011 & Gas 30 (18/1)
Aust. 011 & Gas 30 (18/1)
City Developments SS3 98
Dainippon Screen Mfg 7597 0 (18/1)
Energy Res. Aust. AS1.18 (20/1)
Killinghall Tin (Malaysial Berhad Ord
MS1.34 (15/1)
Kulim Malaysia Ord 20 (15/1)
Leighton Hidgs AS1.25
Malayan Dement MS4 698 (19/1)
McCartly Group 51 (20/1)
National Electronics HKS0.65 (15/1)
North Finders Mines 1.38
Oil Searth AS0.65 (19/1)
Regal Hotels (hidgs) HKS0.962 (15/1)
Samp Lid S5.759
Selangor Properties MS1 78 (20/1)
Sclangor Properties MS1 78 (20/1)
Store Communications SK288.5
United Overseas Land SS3. 37 (15/1)
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The FT-SE 100, FT-SE Mid 250 and FT-SE Actuaries 350 indices, the FT-SE

FINANCIAL TIMES

High

17.83 21.93 15.79 16.82 152.6 160.6 60.0

REKINDLED hopes for an early cut in UK interest rates continued to flourish in the London stock market yesterday but shares lost heart towards the close as govern-ment bonds shaded lower.

At the high point of the day, the FT-SE Index came within six points of regaining the 2,800 mark. By the close, however, the gain had been cut to 7.9 for a final reading of 2,781.2. The final hour of trading saw sharp reversals in some share prices on what some analysts regarded as uncertain investment grounds.

The underlying tone of the stock market remained relatively confident, underpinned

Account	t Dealing	Dates
That Dealings: Jan 4	Jan 18	Feb 1
Option Declaration 14	ona: Jan 26	Feb 11
Lest Deslings: Jan 15	Jan 29	Feb 12
Account Day: Jan 25	Feb 8	Fob 22

by good turnover volume. A return of investor attention towards the second line issues was reflected in a gain of 9.8 on the FT-SE Mid 250 Index for a close of 2,909.0.

Retail, or customer, interest in equities has remained high this week; Thursday's retail business touched recent daily average highs at a total of £1.49bn. The week has seen share prices moving nervously against a troubled background

of Middle East hostilities and iomestic economic uncertain-

The stock market turned higher at the end of the week as the announcement that UK unemployment had risen to nearly 3m, together with doubts on Christmas retail sales and falling industrial output, alarmed the City and inspired hopes that base rates may be cut in the near future, rather than in the March bud-

Share price gains on Thursday and yesterday have left the FT-SE Index 16.1 points up on the week. Equity strategists were in two minds yesterday. A cut in base rates would be good for equities and also strengthen hopes for an economic revival.

forecast for the year to end-

March 1994 to around £900m.

Other brokers were said to

have followed in cutting their

numbers. Previous estimates

Analysts said Mercury, C &

W's 80 per cent-owned telecoms

business, has been hit by the

recession while Hong Kong Telecom, where C & W has a 58

per cent stake, could be facing

reductions in call charges. C &

W's preliminary figures for the

Strong demand for British

Airways (BA) saw turnover

rise to 15m, and the shares

close 8 up at 273p, as the mar-

ket took on board Thursday's

announcement of a strategic

That news came shortly after

Thursday's market close so

yesterday was the UK stock

market's first reaction to the

US deal which came at the end

of a week of bad publicity for

BA over its dispute with Virgin

Atlantic. US houses were par-

ticularly keen buyers with

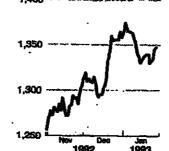
Salomon International on the

alliance with USAir.

year are expected in May.

were around £970m-80m.

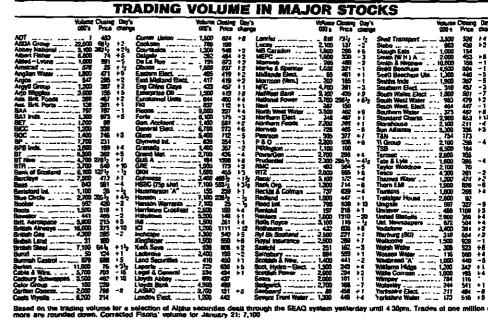
FT-A Ali-Share Index 1.400 ----



But an early reduction would smack of economic desperation, as well as storing up trouble in terms of inflation, as well as for the impending fundUK gilts were down by about one quarter of a point throughout yesterday's session, with trading fairly subdued as trad-ers weighed the outlook for sterling as it extended the loss

of the previous session. Sharelink, the execution-only broker which claims the lion's share of UK private investor business, said yesterday that its clients had remained buyers of UK equities this week, as they have been since Decem-

Store and retail issues remained subdued vesterday as sector strategists assessed the implications of this week's news on Christmas sales Banks conventionally immediate beneficiaries from interest rate cuts, moved ahead.



FINANCIAL TIMES EQUITY INDICES

Jan 22

London report and latest Share Index

Engineering-Aerospace FT-SE SmallCap ex Inv Tst FT-SE SmallCap

Merchant Banks inancial Group

Metals & Metal Forming .

Jan 22 Jan 21 Jan 20 Jan 19 Jan 18

 Ordinary share
 2152.2
 2143.7
 2133.9
 2124.7
 2140.6
 1944.9
 2208.9

 Chri. div yield
 4.39
 4.39
 4.41
 4.42
 4.39
 4.70
 5.34

 Earthing yid % ball
 6.03
 6.06
 6.07
 6.03
 7.05

 P/E ratio ml
 19.54
 19.53
 19.43
 19.40
 19.55
 16.82

 Gabit Milese
 63.8
 61.8
 60.0
 60.2
 61.3
 152.6
 160.6

Open 9.00 10.00 11.00 12.00 13.00 14.00 15.00 16.00 High Low

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FT-A INDICES LEADERS AND LAGGARDS

Percentage changes since December 31 1992 based on Friday January 22 1993

4.67

Electricals Other industrials . Electronics

Gold Mines Index

Jan 21

US move seen by Sainsbury

GROWING speculation that J. Sainsbury is looking to make a substantial acquisition in the UK is likely to prove wide of the mark, according to London analysts. The supermarket group is now believed to be targeting a large US food store business. Such a purchase, which could cost Sainsbury about £400m, would complement its Shaw's supermarkets division of 75 stores based in New England. It could also cause Sainsbury to seek further funds from its shareholders. The shares gained a penny

of Stylo

Park Purch

64 £3.69m

W7. 1 Y- 18 / ES

lili

Names touted nearer home yesterday included the lossmaking Do It All chain owned by W.H. Smith and Boots. Analysts said there would be some synergy with Sainsbury's Homebase DIY business, with suggestions also that patience is wearing thin among Do It All's present owners. W.H. Smith 'A' shares advanced 8 to 453p, helped by a Nomura buy note.

Boots edged forward to 518p. Another candidate under scrutiny was Asda. Yesterday saw 22m shares traded and the equivalent of another 10m in the options market. The shares added 2 at 68%p. However, analysts were dismissive of a bid for Asda, arguing that the financial and strategic advantages were not compelling.

ICI sold

Shares in ICI fell 12 to 1.1111 with several traders pinpoint-

FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices

FT-SE 100 2781.2 +7.9

Jen 22

2781.2

31/12/85 31/12/83

31/12/90

31/12/90 31/12/90

ing US investment bank Goldman Sachs. Dealers said Goldman had finally managed to offload in New York the 10m shares still on its books after Hanson sold its 2.8 per cent stake in May last year.

Goldman would not com-ment but informed sources said there had been heavy selling to US institutional clients. The shares were also weak following press comment pointing out the relatively small positive impact of the business swap with BASF of Germany, announced on Thursday compared with the subsequent sharp rise in the share price.

C & W active

A late flurry of selling caused by broker downgrades, drove Cable & Wireless shares sharply lower in the last hour of trading.

The stock ended the session down 18 at 703p with turnover expanding rapidly to a hefty 5.5m. The profit downgrades were initiated, specialists said, by Cazenove, Cable's own bro-

bid for most of the morning, ker, which reduced its profits and Lehman Brothers a strong **NEW HIGHS AND LOWS**

NEW HIGHS (140).

AMERICANS (15) American T & T. Ameriach.
Bank/Imerica, Ballsouth, Bethleham, Chrysler, Citicorp, Dona, Echilin, PPL, Ford Motor,
Ingersolf-Rand, Merrill Lynch, Rackwell,
Sears Roebuck, BARIS (5) Allied Irlah, Sk.
Scotland, Barcleys, NatWest, Standard
Chartd, TBB, BREWERS (1) Burtenwood,
BLIDG MATLS (1) Anglass, BusBerts, Standard
Chartd, TBB, BREWERS (2) Hoschst, Porveir, CONGLOMERATES (1) Bodyota, ELECTRICALS (2) Menvier-Swaln, Motorola, ELECTRICALS (3) Admiral, Control Techs.
Cray, Electron Here, Eurotherm, Gresham,
Macor A, Siemsens, Telemetrix, EMG ASRO (1)
Br. Aerospiec 73, pc PL. EMG GEN (2) Powercercent, Wolf, FOOD RETALLING (3) ASDA.
Farepait, Park, HEALTH & MSEMOLD (5)
Ameriaham, Assoc, Marsing, 37, Bio-Toch,
Saton, Takare, MOTELS & LEIS (2) Brent
Walter, Kunick & Supe PL, BISCS BROCKES
(1) Lowndes Lamber, BISCE COMPOSITE (1)
Affazz, SPICE LIFE (3) Transastants, Do Spe
PL. Utd. Friendly, TRUSTS (46) MEDIA (5)
Contral ITV, Elsevier, GWR, Harringson Kil-

Central ITV, Elsevier, GWR, Harrington Kil-bride, Scot. TV, MERCHANT BANKS (5)

ekunga Jan 21 Jan 28 Jan 19

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FT-SE MID 250

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visiti %

4.39

6.38

CANADIANS (1) Nin. American Tire, BUSI-NESS SERVE (1) Prime People, ELECTRON-ECS (1) EIT, ENG CEN (2) Miring & Avi-Whowey, FOOD MANUF (1) Sheldon Jones, HEALTH & HEEFOLD (1) Specialsyes, SHY TRIBSTS (1) German Smir. Cos Wix. MISC

buyer during the afternoon.

Messages from a US trade union to UK institutional shareholders of Tate & Lyle highlighting an industrial dispute unsettled the shares which retreated 4 to 395p. While specialists downplayed the financial significance of the dispute, which involves negotiations over labour contracts at a large US refinery, it struck a nerve with investors ahead of the group's agm next week.

A modest rally in crude oil prices helped the exploration and production sub-sector register further good gains. Enterprise Oil rose 8 more to 419p on relatively keen turnover of 1.5m shares after some strong demand said to have been generated by Lehman Brothers,

the US broker. Mr Peter Hitchens, oil analyst at Lehman said the company "still has the potential for good growth and remains the quality play in the exploration stocks.

Banks maintained their strong showing, renewed buying driven by recovery hopes and takeover speculation. Standard Chartered capped a week of big gains by a further 17 gain to 653p, having touched a 1992/3 high of 655p, after profits upgrades and renewed take-

over speculation. During the week Standard shares bave risen 68.

NatWest gained 9 to 435p, on 9.1m traded, but Lloyds, widely regarded as a potential bidder for one of the UK banks, closed unchanged at 499p, with 4.9m traded. Volatility continued in Glaxo

on the two-way view about imminent economic recovery. An announcement by Glaxo's Japanese arm of a co-development deal to sell Zantac, the prescription ulcer treatment, as an over-the-counter drug was interpreted by one analyst as highlighting the company's concern about its concentration on prescription drugs. The shares closed 5 lower at 712p. Gases group BOC rose 3 to 746p following a buy note from

Kleinwort Benson. Vague bid talk, coupled with a buy note from James Capel, the UK institutional broker, helped Cadbury-Schweppes, up 10 at 482p.

Reuters Holdings failed to benefit from the market's recovery as the stock drifted a further 20 to 1310p ahead of results in February. BZW has voiced caution over the rating and James Capel has reinforced its negative stance.

firm trading in gilts and short

The contract reached the

day's high of 2,813 around

were suspended at 112p pending announcement of a recommended offer by Capital Radio. Capital bid 130p a share, valuing Midland at £17.7m. Profit-taking prompted Lon-

don television franchise holder Carlton to fall 8 to 7980. Anglia Television was held down at 202p as NatWest Securities moved the stock to a hold from a buy arguing that the shares were fairly valued

at present levels. Reports that aircraft leasing company GPA was to cancel a large number of aircraft orders hurt several suppliers to the aircraft manufacturers Among those to suffer were TI, 5 lower at 296p, and Smiths Industries which also gave up 5 to 367p. British Aerospace moved 5 ahead to 215p, on talk that the long awaited Al-Yamamah 2 defence order was about to be

announced Regional broker Wise Speke placed 25 per cent of shoe sellers Stylo at around 96p. The shares fell 4 to 108p.

MARKET REPORTERS: Christopher Price,

Joel Kibazo, Peter John Steve Thompson. Other market statistics



nsurance (Lite) the most actively dealt stock

2.07 1.61 FT-SE-A 350 ... "500" Share Index 1.07 0.99 0.93 0.87

EQUITY FUTURES AND OPTIONS TRADING

sterling.

FURTHER hopes of a cut in UK interest rates continued in the derivates, again belging to drive Footsie futures forward, vrites Joel Kibazo.

The March contract on the FT-SE opened at 2,785, and, but for a brief early retreat, moved steadily forward on speculation of a cut in base

THE UK SERIES

FT-A ALL-SHARE

1348.55 +3.91

2861.5 4/1/93

31/12/75 30/4/82

100.00

100.00

with turnover reaching 8,735 It was also boosted by the

986.9 23/7/84

1pm. In the afternoon, March came off the top due to the poor trading in the bonds mar-ket but remained above the 2,800 level and closed at 2,803,

est series. British Airways was a poor second at 1,993 lots and TSB followed at 1,957 contracts. The closing total for the traded options was 37,685 lots, ith the RT-SR 1 In traded options, Asda was recording 10,290 contracts.

option as talk of a bid circu-

lated. It traded 9,390 contracts

with the July 70 puts the busi-

RISES AND FALLS YESTERDAY

		n Frida	y	On the week		
	Rises	Falls	Same	Rises	Falls	Same
British Funds	27	23	28	196	120	82
Other Fixed Interest	352 245 22	3	4	33	15	27
Commercial, Industrial	352	225	848	1,644	1,328	4,148
Financial & Property	245	49	506	932	406	2,669
0il & Gas	22	16	47	113	67	245
Plantations	0	O.	9	1	2	42
Mines	51	10	80	145	127	433
Others	50	27	29	215	166	168
Totals	755	353	1,551	3,279	2,231	7,814

BENCHMARK GOVERNMENT BONDS

		Coupon	Dete	Price	Change	Yleid	#go	age
AUSTRA	LIA	10.000	10/02	107.8467	+ 1.011	6.78	8.94	891
BELGIUM	A	8.750	08/02	107.5000	-0.200	7.60	7.54	7.84
CANADA	•	8.500	04/02	102,6000	+ 0.400	6.09	8.07	7.80
DENMAR	K	9.000	11/00	103.5750	+0675	8.35	8 78	9.05
FRANÇE	BYAN OAT	8.500 8.500	03/97 11/02	102,4045 104,6200	+ 0.034 + 0.100	7.78 7.80	7.79 7.82	8.05
GERMAN	Y	8.000	07/02	105.7700	-0.070	7.14	7.11	7.24
ITALY		12.000	05/02	95.8000	+ 1.060	13.19†	13.54	13.36
JAPAN	No 119 No 145	4. 90 0 5.500	08/99	102,8209 107,8464	+.0.049 + 0.418	4.24	4.31 4.39	4.51 4.57
NETHERL	ANDS	8.250	06/02	107.4100	-0.090	7.13	7.14	7 35
SPAIN		10.300	08/02	92.1500	+ 0.250	11.69	12.06	12.43
UK GILTS		10.000 9.750 9.000	11/98 08/02 10/08	110-03 109-17 102-02	+ 3/32	6.95 8.30 8.75	7.12 8.38 8.77	7.23 8.31 8.59
US TREA	SURY .	6.375	08/02	98-19	-1/32	6.58	8.62	6.65

8.500 03/02 102,1250 +0.450 8.16 8.31 ECU (French Govt) London closing, "denotes New York morning session Yields: Local market standard † Gross annual yield (including withholding tax at 12.5 per cent payable by non-resi-Technical Data(ATLAS Price So

+0.3 2773.3 2748.7 2737.8 2518.4 +0.3 2899.2 2898.9 2885.9 2425.8 +0.3 1363.8 1353.4 1348.7 1214.4 +0.3 1431.74 1425.93 1426.02 — 20.12 17.67 2281.0 25/8 2157.8 16/9 3.43 5.18 1.85 1.89 1.77 FT-SE 100 FT-SE NM 250 FT-SE-A 360 1379.4 21/1/88 2940.3 7/1 1397.7 4/1 1435.92 22/1 1448.43 22/1 7.16 4.45 2940.3 7/1/93 4.41 4.45 4.71 6.55 19.55 1103.1 25/8 1397.7 4/1/93 684.5 14/1/86 1363.79 31/12 1363.79 31/12 1435.92 22/1/93 1363.79 31/12/92 1446.43 22/1/93 1363.79 31/12/92 FT-SE SmallCap FT-SE SmallCap ex law Trusts 1435.92 6.36 22.51 44R 43 +03 144269 1437.49 1437.27 T-A ALL-SHARE +03 134464 1334,58 1330,19 1200,51 1.82 1373.20 4/1 1086,13 25/8 1373.20 4/1/93 61.82 13/12/74 1348.55 +0.8 878.56 874.11 871.72 773.50 +0.5 888.23 892.58 895.07 931.56 +0.2 720.61 716.61 719.41 859.14 664.23 9/9 1038,07 16/7/87 50.71 13/12/74 6.39 4.86 20.50 928.04 20/5 CAPITAL GOODS(211) 0.77 0.20 1.02 1121.52 11/5 1069.64 11/5 2758.50 22/5 617.65 9/9 485.72 9/9 1381.08 16/7/87 44.27 11/12/74 1951.50 18/7/87 71.48 2/12/74 5.98 6.74 5.65 3.62 25.18 80.001 11.39 116.81 16.81 16.81 16.82 16.8 903.10 3 Contracting, Const -0.4 2576.89 2604.86 2610.86 2453.80 +1.5 2321.65 2323.66 2318.97 1724.33 -0.2 317.97 317.84 312.24 326.34 +0.1 524.04 520.19 521.67 483.88 +1.3 333.31 333.48 323.98 326.83 -0.4 382.98 384.25 383.34 294.43 +1.3 1980.09 1957.13 1948.15 1589.72 -0.1 1715.45 1707.43 1696.57 1621.84 -0.6 1962.37 1933.76 1945.10 246.26 +0.3 3330.28 3343.85 3347.42 2453.50 -0.5 4975.74 4004.36 3971.57 4394.16 -0.5 1295.77 1295.15 1282.18 1256.57 -1.815.38 1817.30 1823.75 1469.59 +0.3 3117.78 1107.16 1098.57 1002.59 +0.3 747.91 748.33 749.04 606.99 +0.5 1424.90 1422.26 1422.06 1189.62 +0.7 1551.81 1548.02 1555.09 1371.86 -0.2 1449.34 1429.06 1434.25 1462.83 +0.4 1424.83 1404.75 1398.82 1305.80 +0.7 2775.57 2765.23 2738.60 2392.29 +0.8 1553.92 1553.47 1555.07 1150.10 +0.4 1609.91 1618.78 1813.59 1363.88 +0.2 1449.34 1429.06 1434.25 1462.83 +0.4 1609.91 1618.78 1813.59 1363.88 +0.3 1418.34 1408.58 1405.86 1796.86 +0.3 1418.34 1408.58 1405.86 1796.86 +0.3 1418.34 1408.58 1405.86 1796.86 +0.3 1418.34 1408.58 1405.86 1270.61 +0.3 1228.93 2117.88 2107.87 2161.09 +0.3 1485.59 1477.57 1474.32 1350.33 +0.5 903.00 885.22 875.55 722.14 +0.7 1248.82 1215.94 1195.48 888.17 -0.7 179.51 1771.32 1768.87 1413.83 +1.2 632.01 820.94 817.22 505.18 -0.5 791.86 783.51 782.37 1077.20 +0.5 523.41 550.58 518.93 461.23 -644.27 843.70 839.79 783.35 +0.7 303.42 302.93 302.70 239.01 +0.5 1331.25 1322.84 1325.10 1173.33 +0.3 1344.64 1334.58 1330.19 1200.51 - 0.4 2576.89 2604.86 2610.96 2453.60 +1.5 2321.66 2323.56 2318.97 1724.33 1874.89 20/10 3040.80 8/9/89 84.71 25/6/62 Bectncals(14) 1855.93 13/1 243.47 24/11 2370.17 29/12/92 1229.01 8/10/85 502.42 13/6/90 243.47 24/11/92 5 Electronics(35) 406,10 20/5 567,82 20/5 379,31 18/5 11.19 7.41 409.31 9/9 255.51 8/9 587,52 20/5/92 339.57 23/1/91 596,67 9/10/67 49.65 5/1/75 411,42 13/10/87 19.91 6/1/75 7.70 5.16 5.17 6.21 454 3.91 8.14 4.24 7 Engineering-General(52) 8 Metals & Metal Forming(11) 337.79 381,29 403.06 21/5 274.42 1/9 9 Motors(16) 2024.67 8/1 1773.10 4/1 1480.17 9/9 1446.17 25/8 1812.14 5/10 0.39 265 2024.67 6/1/93 277.55 15/1/81 10 Other Industrials(18) 21 CONSUMER GROUP(232) 2005.11 1773.10 4/1/93 61.41 13/12/74 2278.85 11/5 1358.99 8/1 3409.33 22/12 2278.85 11/5/92 69.47 13/12/74 22 Browns and Obdition(28) 25 Food Manufacturing(22) 26 Food Retailing(18) 10.14 1.48 0.41 1358.99 8/1/93 5409.33 22/12/92 1064.95 10/9 2293.80 10/1 1357.10 4854.94 1471 3648.63 25/8 4654.94 14/1/92 175.38 28/5/80 0.54 6.25 0.94 0.21 0.98 0.00 3.04 0.14 4055.94 1450.36 13/5 1861.89 6/1 898,80 18/9 1376,55 25/8 1845,77 8/9/89 54.83 9/1/75 1861.89 6/1/93 1166.91 16/1/91 875.53 13/5/92 43.46 6/1/75 1288.76 1816.24 29 Hotels and Leisure(20) 5.60 30 Media(33) 31 Packaging and Paper(23) 34 Stores(39) 875.53 13/5 1170.17 5/1 769.43 8/1 875.53 13/5/92 1170.17 5/1/93 914.52 2/10/87 8.75 8.43 6.57 8.56 5.74 6.34 633.17 16/9 907.08 25/8 551.94 25/8 792.43 52.63 6/1/75 52.66 11/12/74 35 TextSet(20) 1431.60 1562.38 1445.75 1453.B5 4/1 1140.58 3/4 1453.85 4/1/83 58.63 6/1/75 40 OTHER BROUPS(145) 1572.90 15/1 1629.99 8/5 1509.94 11/5 2620.55 22/12 1589.96 15/1 1699.21 1/12 1160.34 1/9 1243.05 1/9 1572.90 15/1/93 892.28 1/2/91 1629.98 8/5/92 71.20 1/12/74 1819.46 11/6/89 975.19 10/11/87 41 Business Services(27) 42 Chemicals(24) 0.30 1.63 1.04 7.45 8.06 13.87 8.25 14.34 1067.92 2/9 2133.26 26/8 1044.63 7/4 1274.20 3/4 2820.55 22/12/92 90.80 29/8/62 1589.96 15/1/93 994.96 7/1/91 1689.21 1/12/92 517.92 30/11/84 43 Congitome 44 Transport(16) 45 Electricity(16) 16.54 3357.97 11/11 2533.67 22/12 2140.95 8/4 1770.94 3/1 3357.97 11/11/92 1820.20 1/5/90 2533.67 22/12/92 60.39 8/7/75 47 Water(13) 48 Miscellamons(32) 49 INDUSTRIAL SROUP(5 5.87 7.23 6.25 7.22 3.02 4.80 2.83 2460.92 1450.90 4/1/93 59.01 13/12/74 2528.70 3/8/90 87.23 29/5/82 1526.53 4/1/93 63.49 13/12/74 1450.90 4/1 2253.15 31/12 1528.53 4/1 1168.49 1/9 1758.72 7/8 1228.86 26/8 831.13 25/8 87.23 295/62 63.49 13/12/74 55.88 13/12/74 \$1 (94 & Gas(18) 59 "580" SHARE (MINEX(584) 1489.46 907,23 22/1/93 907.23 22/1 1257,18 22/1 1816,89 23/12 790.95 3/4 1243.61 6/4 418.66 27/7 1257,16 22/1/83 62.44 12/12/74 1816.89 23/12/92 44.88 2/1/75 768.11 29/12/89 43.96 13/12/74 61 FINANCIAL GROUP(88 ‡ 17,46 16,18 7.89 8.13 8.69 7.08 855.68 22/12 639.37 767.88 418.05 2777 198.11 2817200 198.12 2817200 198.13 2818 198.65 177787 31.21 77175 198.41 2818 198.65 198.75 198.65 198.75 198.65 198.65 198.75 198.65 198.65 198.75 198.65 198.65 198.75 198.65 1 66 Insurance (Composite)(7) 67 Insurance Brokers(10) 68 Merchant Banks(6) 1031.35 27/1 525.91 22/1 799.69 20/1 14.89 18.57 311.57 5/1 1341.00 31/12 ±41231 +0.5 1331.25 1322.64 1325.10 1173.33 +0.3 1344.64 1334.58 1330.19 1200.51 1373.20 4/1

Hourly mo	vements	9.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16,10	Close	High/c	<u> </u>	owiday
FT-SE 100 FT-SE MId 250 FT-SE-A 350	2776.1 2899.9 1365.0	2776.6 2900.5 1365.3	2778.7 2903.1 1366.3	2787.1 2907.6 1370.0	2791.7 2909.0 1371.9	2794.6 2908.7 1373.0	2790,8 2909,2 1371,8	2789,1 2906,6 1370,9	2783.6 2909.8 1388.9	2781.2 2908.0 1387.9	2794 2909 1373	.9	2773.4 2899.6 1983.9
FT-SE Act	uaries 3!	50 Indu	stry Bas	kets							Prev d	000 (hange
Constron Health & H Water Banks	1422.3 1235.5 1300.4 1521.6	1421.7 1243.4 1301.4 1521.6	1425.1 1239.7 1304.8 1526.6	1423.9 1241.0 1311.8 1536.2	1424.3 1238.2 1314.4 1537.2	1423.1 1238.3 1317.2 1538.0	1423.1 1226.6 1317.7 1536.3	1423.6 1231.2 1317.9 1534.8	1424.7 1227.0 1316.4 1527.6	1424.5 1223.9 1316.1 1527.5	1425. 1244. 1318. 1539.	5 3	1421.7 1223.9 1300.4 1520.4
Equity section 9 FT-SE SmallCap FT-SE SmallCap FT-SE Mid 250 FT-SE-A 350	exine Trust	31/12/92 31/12/92 31/12/85	1363.79 1412,60	Engine Water Congli Telepi	section or sering - Gen omerates hone Networ	eral	29/12/86 31/12/86 30/11/84	485.00 1968.45 1114.07 517.92 1648.65	Other Fi Food Ma Food Re Insuran	nancial mufacturing. tailing		31/12/70 29/12/67 29/12/67 29/12/67 29/12/67 10/4/62	128.08 114.13 114.13 96.57

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63,76

30/11/84 30/12/83 31/12/80

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1000.00 999.86 999.65 1228.68 488.00 31/12/70 traigno crimeo 1990. - The Financial Times Cumings 1995: All rights 1996 Exchange and The Financial Times Limited, Auditor: The WM Company.

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AUTHORISED UNIT TRUSTS	Link Come. Bild Offer + or Yield Carge Price - Brit Street Glasgow G2 drift - 641-223-6020 Saturated Growth . 1690.09 0.05 % 3.724-0.782.39 De (Accessor) . 697.07 27 98.33 105 117-1381.81 De (Accessor) . 697.07 27 98.33 105 117-1381.81 De (Accessor) . 697.07 77.01 82.33 - 105 118.81 De (Accessor) . 697.07 77.01 82.33 - 105 118.81 De (Accessor) . 697.07 77.01 82.33 - 1441.81 Bighey Yield 69.35 45 35 812 80.30-0.394 32 De (Accessor) 697.07 39 85 52.581-80.42 32 De (Accessor) 698.07 39 85 52.581-80.42	1 White Hart Yd. London Bridge SE J 18X 077 407 5966 6	artimore Food Markegers (1200/F automore House, 16-18 Marketes Street ander EC3R 8AJ eallers only 0277-264421 Imestor Scriots. Franciscue 0800-289 336	Promiss Growth Funds \$1, 47.25 47.25 50.25 41.91 10.15 10.	Left Case. 8 4 Offer - of Yish Case: Price Pri	helt Conc. Pinte Price 12 Price 12 Price	Rothschild Fund Management (1000)F Startish's Lane, Lorger EC With America day 1 Per 11 aug 17 aug 17 aug 18 aug	F,		
AIR Unit Trust Managers Limited (1000)F 51 Belmont Rd, Ustradyr, Minja USB 112, 0895 259783 28 Gerhard Lawres 5123,9 125 6 163,7 (2.3)0,00 416 Certage Egalty 5 2005 2624 213,1 (146),24 416 Eventured Earn 5189,6 151,7 159,7 (2.0)0,36 416 Eventured Earn 5189,6 151,7 159,7 (2.0)0,36 416 Certaged Earn 5189,6 157,7 170 cells as 6.00 416 Certaged Earn 5110,8 120,1 120,440 cells 00 4XA Equity & Law Unit Tat Mages (1200)H	Environn Ferenti b) 187-24 197-39 30.13-0.131.78 De (Assam)	Crown Unit Tet Services Ltd (1200)F Crown Hosse, Woking GU21 1NW 0883 715033 U Crown Hosse, Woking GU21 1NW 0883 715033 U Crown Hosse, Woking GU21 1NW 14 11 14 06 11 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	0 (Security)	ad Growth 344 49-36 42-36 48-14-14-11 1	Access thrist	kell Extreme Acc 44, 75 33 76 67 82 022 40 31 4 31 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	GK Sandre Cos 5 4 871 97 40 71 44 82 77 44 10 4 12 17 44 18 14 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18			
Europe 6 201 0 201 0 213 9 +1.0 1.22 Brit Euceli 6 61 37 81 37 65.29 60 57 13 17 Brit Fadamin Acr. 6 79 09 79 09 84.14 66 15 37 Brit Fadamin 61 62 68 62 66 65 69 65 65 65 65 65	Formation - 6 18-09 70 55 74 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Discretionary Unit Fund Magrs (1000)F 1/0 Graip Middleten 66 Wilson St. 122 971-3778919 1/0 Graip Middleten 56 Wilson St. 122 971-3778919 1/0 Graip Middleten 56 Wilson St. 122 971-3778919 1/0 Graip Middleten 59 140 971-378919 1/0 Accord Land 15 13 122 971-3299 1/0 Accord Land 15 13 122 971-3299 1/0 Accord Land 15 13 122 971-3299 1/0 Accord Land 15 13 129 129 129 129 129 129 129 129 129 129	and Set Depts 34, 286.47 Set 10 -1.M1 25, protest Energies 34, 73.05 7.7 5 deat 76 996 71 00 00 per Kory 34, 73.05 7.7 5 deat 76 996 71 00 00 per Kory 34, 84, 96 11 96 11 10 10 77 42 86 21 2 1 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 31 5 179.5 7 60 90 34 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 31 5 179.5 7 60 90 34 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 31 5 179.5 7 60 90 34 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 31 5 179.5 7 60 90 34 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 31 5 179.5 7 60 90 34 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 5 12 2 0 8 per Kory 34, 82 7.8 11 5 12 2 0 9 per Kory 34, 82 7 11 5 12 2 0 9 per Kory 34, 82 7 11 5 12 7 12 7 12 7 12 7 12 7 12 7 1	1915 1916 1917	and Berneth	Europe Inc. 34	File	,		
Abbay Unit Tst Mingrs (1000)H 80 Holdenbars Rd, Boyrmanatta (243 7),7373 Cills & Fhed Int 6,122 6,127 6a 139,3 40,67 62 Hydrocharics Bond 6,128 0,140 7 40,15,48 Worldwide Bond 6,244 234 4,265 44 4,261,44 Anter-Can Comput	Orient 8	Bardon General Control 1000 1	See Description	201 Access 100	Aerthorough Frand Managers Lts (1630): Five and Managers Lts (1630): Five and Managers Lts (1630): Five and Managers Lts (1630): Marked Carrie Unit Trusts Lts (1995): Marked Carrie Unit 1995 (1995): Marked Carrie Unit 1995 (1995): Marked Carrie Unit 1996 (1996): Marked Carrie Unit	0 K General Acc. 54	High he Bett . 51105 6 105 6 112 9 4 16 12 7 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18			
### 1023 1035 1036 403 179 UN Growth Acc 6 1023 1035 1036 403 179 UN Growth Dist 0 1722 1722 184 140 3 2 79 US Emerging Cos 6 1114 1132 124 492 2 62 Ethics 6 Growth 6 124 1132 124 492 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	in Furciolite	European Act	IDSS	apar 152 297 (9 201) 200 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	gam	PO Son 124, 511/59 Rose Lane, Rowwich 105 5612244 Salatier Treet: he 19-92 79 52 105 57 10 90 12244 UK Ecsistyr. 611/93 121.10 1226 53+11.11 33 UK Ecsistyr lexome 65 111.56 113.62 1220 97 10 90 44.50 UK Smaller Crs. 619/9.65 102 90 619/9.70 43.22 53 UK Smaller Crs. 619/9.65 102 90 619/9.70 43.22 53 UK Ecsisty Servent. 6111/05 111.65 111.64 109.25 75 124 100: instance of 611/36 111.64 1125 664-101.14 40 125 100: instance of 611/36 111.53 122 664-101.14 40 Interpretational 6120 92 162.76 194 63 630 11.11	\$\text{St. James's Place UT Group Ltd (1200)F} 150 \$\text{St. Vincous St. Blagons \$\text{G25}\$ \$\text{St. St. O4-307-\$\text{St. O5}\$} For East late: \$\text{\$1\$\text{10}\$ \$\text{9}\$ \$\text{115}\$ \$\text{9}\$ \$\text{115}\$ \$\text{0}\$ \$\text			
Abtrust Unit Trust Managers Ltd (1200)H 10 Queen, Ferrace Aperders AB9 (U.) 11 Queen, Ferrace Aperders AB9 (U.) 12 Queen, Ferrace Aperders AB9 (U.) 13 Queen, Ferrace Aperders AB9 (U.) 14 Queen, Ferrace Aperders AB9 (U.) 15 Queen, Ferrace AB9 (U.) 16 Queen, Ferrace AB9 (U.) 17 Queen, Ferrace AB9 (U.) 17 Queen, Ferrace AB9 (U.) 18 Queen	Canada Life Unit 13t Mayir Ltd Lizouri May S. Portey Bar, Herks, Elbi SAA. 0777 51122 Cas Gen Oist	Pacific Co. 51, 23, 24, 25, 26, 45, 26, 45, 26, 27, 27, 27, 27, 27, 27, 27, 27, 27, 27	Infrians Unit 1st Magns Ltd (0905)F Satials St. Landon SW11 405 071-930 7533 Lister Portials 21323 323 3228 1.73 31 0000000000000000000000000000000000	Linchk Liderschitz L. Lid. 47, 39 47 85 50 90 90 94, 39 2 6 6 90 52, 30 96, 30 96 52, 30 96,	According to the second	Sect. East. Alexa 65:75:31:99 (17.01). 143:650.35 Soct. East. Alexa 65:75:31:99 (17.01). 143:650.35 Interror coul Bond 65:77:55:75:199 (17.01). 143:651.35 Interror coul Bond 65:77:55:75:75:77:71:71:75:75 Git & Convertible 6:50:09 (17.01). 150:17:60:17:	PEP Progressive for 5 162-5 164 7 174 31-121 198 PEP Progressive Act - 31 173 181 7 192 31-121 198 PEP Progressive Act - 31 177 3 181 7 192 31-121 198 PEP PEP PEP PEP PEP PEP PEP PEP PEP PE	K		
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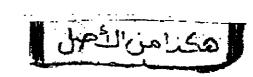
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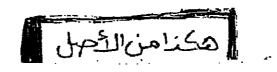
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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

US stocks ahead despite economic data

Wall Street

US STOCK markets struggled to stay in positive territory yesterday in the face of computer program selling and some bad news on the jobs market, writes Patrick Harverson in New York.

At 1 pm, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 7.57 at 3,260.59 The more broadly based Standard & Poor's 500 was up 1.30 at 436.79, while the Amex composite was 0.43 higher at 406.01. The Nasdaq composite remained in sparkling form, rising 2.14 to 702.91, another new record high. Trad-ing volume on the NYSE was 166m shares by 1 pm.

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The day's economic news, the first meaningful statistics for some time, was mixed. On the negative side, jobless claims rose 17,000 in the first full week of January; a bigger than expected increase.

It was the second big jump in claims in consecutive weeks, and an indication that the economic recovery is not feeding through into the still depressed labour market. On a brighter note, however,

December housing starts rose 5.5 per cent, surprising analysts who had forecast a much smaller rise. It was the largest monthly increase in housing starts in more than a year, and contributed to the market's early gains. Prices soon fell

BRAZILIAN equities rose strongly to show a 7.5 per cent gain in the Bovespa index at midsession as investors reacted to the approval earlier this week by the lower house of tax and port legislation. The index was up 6,489 at 92,345.

back, partly under pressure from mid-morning sell pro-

The political background was gloomy. The news that President Bill Clinton's choice for attorney general had been forced to withdraw her nomination meant that the new president's term had got off to a rocky start.

Among individual stocks, steel companies were in strong demand on the news of industry-wide steel price rises. LTV was the most active stock, rising \$12 to \$1% in volume of 5m shares, followed by Bethlehem Steel, up \$1% at \$18%, Inland Steel, up \$1 at \$24%, USX, up \$1% at \$36%, and Geneval Steel, \$1 % firmer at \$13 %.

Motor stocks continued to post solid gains on active buyng. Chrysler, the star per former of the sector in recent months, jumped another \$11/4 to \$39%. Ford added \$% at \$47% and General Motors firmed \$% to \$37%. Ralston Purina climbed \$3%

to \$48% after the company reported fiscal first quarter

index and share price rebased

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Sep 1992 Dec 93

off the day's lows. The Comit

index was 5.98 lower at 481.62.

0.6 per cent higher on the

However, Italcementi and its

parent, Italmobiliare, were

among the few issues to rise

after news that the govern-

ment was to free around L50

trillion for public works spend-

ing. Italcementi rose L388 to

L9.338 and Italmobiliare fixed

L150 up at L37,000 before surg-

ing to L38,500 after hours.
STOCKHOLM ended lower

after profit-taking ahead of the

February results reporting sea-

son and a fall by pharmaceuti-

cal group Astra. Astra's

A-shares closed down SKr12 at

SKr694, and the B-shares fell

Source: FT Grephite

115

110

operating income of \$1.26 a share, up from \$1.14 a share a year earlier. Investors were also cheered by the news that the company plans to spin-off its Continental Baking unit.

On the Nasdaq market, Soft ware Publishing jumped \$3% to \$12% in volume of 2m shares after the company reported quarterly profits well in excess of market forecasts.

TORONTO was steady at midsession with the TSE-300 composite index 2.72 higher at 3,278.47 and the metals and minerals sub-index up 37.22 at 2,780.53. Volume was estimated

weekly decline of 1.5 per cent.

SKr383 on news of a large con-

Among banking stocks, Han-

SKr2.50 to SK5r44.50 supported

by hopes of a maintained divi-

dend. In contrast, S-E-Banken's

A-share were unchanged at

SKr14 after news of a wide-

BRUSSELS closed higher in

busy trade which took the

Bel-20 index 7.91 higher at

1,172.32, for a weekly rise of 2.4

GIB, was the most active share

following recommendations

from London brokers. It

advanced BFr24 to BFr1,234 on

very high volume of 186,800

MADRID took little encour-

agement from a cut in domes-

tic interest rates and the gen-

eral index lost 1.19 to 232.18,

down 1.5 per cent on the week.

Banco Santander, whose

results on Thursday disap-

pointed the market, shed

VIENNA, held up against

expectations in the wake of

news of a 1992 operating loss

dividend cut at OMV. The ATX

OMV shares slid Sch15 to

Sch599 after the company said

it expected to post a 1992 loss

of Sch300m and that the divi-

index eased 1.43 to 338.34.

Pta235 to Pta4.640.

Belgium's biggest retailer,

spread group overhaul.

lsbanken A-shares climbed

tract from Swedish railways.

Asea's B-share rose SKr1 to

De Beers gives JSE a buoyant start to 1993

But economic hopes are muted, says Philip Gawith

price was an important factor in driving down the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, so its recent recovery has helped get the market off to a buoyant start in 1993. The overall index has risen

by about 4 per cent in the first three weeks, having closed 1992 down 5.3 per cent on the year. The index closed yesterup 22 at 3,404.

Much of this year's rise can be attributed to De Beers, which accounts for some 10 per cent of total volume and 5 per cent of market capitalisation The shares have risen by 16

per cent since the start of the year, closing yesterday at R68.25, after finishing 1992 at R57.50. This improvement is mainly attributable to better than expected rough diamond sales by the Central Selling Organisation during 1992, and indications that the problem of excess supply from Angola and Russia has eased.

The industrial index has also started the year strongly, up 4 per cent, after a 4.6 per cent gain in the whole of 1992, which followed a strong 39 per cent rise the previous year.

Mr Richard Jesse, an analyst at brokers Martin & Co partly attributes this good start to the, by now, "tedious litany" of the market's scrip shortage. Nevertheless, most observers

believe that 1993 will be a better year on the JSE than 1992. To some extent, this view is supported by improved political and economic fundamentals. While the speed of political negotiation is rather slow all those involved are aware that the country cannot afford a repeat of the damaging political hiatus which followed the failure of the Codesa 2 talks in May and the Boipatong massa-

cre in June.

Economic expectations, however, are muted: the weather pattern in recent weeks has led to renewed fears that the El Nino phenomenon, associated with the severe drought of 1991-92, has reappeared. Last year, for instance, the drought shaved nearly 2 percentage points off GDP growth.

ust as the collapse last
August in De Beers' share

The expectation remains, however, of positive growth in 1993 of around 1.5 per cent (GDP shrunk by about 2 per cent in 1992), on hopes of a better agricultural season and improved commodity exports as world

> Index and share price rebased De Beers 1992

growth improves.

The earnings prospects of industrial companies remains gloomy. Most companies that have reported recently have predicted a drop in profits and there is little expectation of improved corporate profits before 1994. In spite of these rather pale

fundamentals, Mr Jesse is pre-dicting a rerating of the market. He believes that the Financial and Industrial index, currently on a price/earnings ratio of 14.9 times, down from a peak of some 15.5 in 1992, could rise to more than 16 this year.

He gives two main reasons for this forecast, apart from the improved political prospects. First, the absence of alternatives: property returns are expected to fall in 1993, while money market rates which are in line with inflation, and likely to fall with interest rates, are hardly attractive. Capital markets are also a

difficult route because, while the probable short-term decline in inflation, which currently stands at about 11 per cent, is positive, this is counterbalanced by concerns about the size of the government's budget deficit and prospects of a relaxation in fiscal policy under an interim government. Second, Mr Jesse argues that South African fund managers will be increasing the equity portion of their portfolios: many of them are underweight, holding less than 60 per cent in equities when the limit is as much as 75 per cent.

One unfashionable area which could receive some of these institutional funds is gold shares which have been sharply downrated over the past three years as the gold index declined from a peak of 2.250 to current levels of about 800, with a 30 per cent fall in 1992 alone.

Mr Mike Wuth, mining ana lyst at brokers Rice Rinaldi says that this correction has largely removed the speculative angle from gold. Now, he says, gold has to offer decent returns and compete more directly with industrial shares. However few analysts hold

out much hope for a higher gold price in the short term and a weakening rand is only likely to offer limited benefit.

ut one way that profits B can be improved is through further cost cutting measures and the December gold quarterly results of mining houses confirm the impressive progress that has been made in this direction. With the dividend yield of the gold index having risen to 6.6 per cent from 3.4 per cent three years ago, gold shares are now offering better value than for a number of

Mr Wuth forecasts that foreigners are more likely to be buyers of good shares than local institutions. Many of the latter, he argues, are historically overweight in gold and so are looking for opportunities to lighten their holdings.

Overseas institutions, of course, will be wary of the vagaries of the financial rand investment unit, which started 1992 at a discount of 14 per cent to the commercial rand and ended at a discount of 37 per cent.

But the political outlook and recent steps taken to bolster the currency, make any further weakening from current levels

子子子 | | | | | | | | |

Frankfurt takes support from Lufthansa

SENIOR bourses were stronger yesterday, writes our markets

FRANKFURT saw gains in the pre-bourse accelerate throughout the session on good overseas interest. The DAX index closed 13.97 higher at 1,587.64, a gain of 2.8 per cent on the week. Turnover was DM5.7bn after DM5.2bn.

Some analysts believe that, while the prospect of a cut in interest rates continues to lift sentiment, hopes that the government's solidarity pact will gain the agreement of employers and trade unions is currently supporting the market.

Individual features included Lufthansa, up DM6.60 or 6 per cent at DM110.00, on reports that it will show good earnings results next week.

Deutsche Babcock rose DM5.80 to DM159.80, after announcing that it was to resume dividend payments of DM3 after a two year suspen-sion and pay the same amount retrospectively for 1991 and

Elsewhere good performances were seen by Siemens, up DM7.00 at DM604.80 and Daimler, DM11.50 higher at DM576.50. PARIS was positive on the

last day of the account with the CAC-40 index finishing 8.24 higher at 1,320,42 for a 0.4 per cent gain on the week. Turnover was good at FFr3.1bn.

SHARE PRICES lost ground in

small-lot selling by investment

trusts, and the Nikkei average

closed below the psychologi-

cally important 16,500 level for

the first time since November

17 last year, writes Emiko Tera-

The 225-issue index closed

down 201.87 at 16,336.81, a 1 per

cent decline on the week. The

index rose to the day's high of

16.540.88 in the morning ses-

sion and fell to a low of

16.333.81 before the close at

anxiety about a possible col-

lapse in share prices next

Volume fell to 180m shares

from 199m. Declines led advances by 656 to 216 with 202

issues remaining unchanged.

The Topix index of all first sec-

tion stocks fell 7.96 to 1,256.70,

and in London the ISE/Nikkei

among market participants

regarding a "February crash"

due to liquidation of specified

money trusts by corporations ahead of March book closing.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MARKETS

Caution has been mounting

50 index rose 0.10 to 1,025.62.

ASIA PACIFIC

Tokyo

zono in Tokuo.

month.

FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices THE EUROPEAN SERIES Hourly changes Opes 19.35 11.98 12.88 13.88 14.88 15.90 Close FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1094.45 1094.75 1092.36 1090.64 1090.57 1091.76 1091.92 1091.64 FT-SE Eurotrack 200 1150.36 1157.72 1155.93 1157.92 1159.26 1157.69 1157.61 1094.45 1094.75 1092,36 1090.64 1090.57 1091.76 1091.92 1091.64 Jan 21 Jan 20 19 مطر Jan 18 **Jaa 15** FT-SE Eurotrack 188 FT-SE Eurotrack 208 1091.44 1154.96

St Gobain gained FFr14.90 to FFr495.90 as investors took stock of its 1992 figures, released after Thursday's close. which suggested that the group has been more resistant to the economic downturn

than other cyclicals. Lyonnaise-Dumez, which has lost 11.6 per cent on the week after forecasting disappointing 1992 earnings on Wednesday, closed 50 centimes lower at FFT409.50.

Elf put on FFr6.00 to FFr340.80 after the group said that its 1992 results, due out early next week, would meet expectations. Moulinex was another gainer, rising FFr5.40 to FFr82.90, ahead of results due out after the close. Peugeot shed FFr20 or 3 per

cent to FFr578 as a number of brokers downgraded the stock. ZURICH turned broadly firmer after a lively afternoon. Shares rose in the morning, dipped at midsession on profittaking, but climbed again in

Yoshiro Hayashi, the finance

minister, who yesterday ruled

out the need for imminent

stock market support mea-

sures, also unnerved market

Sentiment was further

depressed after Mr Gaishi Hir-

aiwa, chairman of the Keidan-

ren - the Federation of Eco-

nomic Organisations - announced that a stock pur-

chasing company, proposed by

some economists, was unneces-

Retail issues held by Shuwa,

the stock and property specula-tor, continued to fall after

Thursday's reports that the

company was looking to sell its

holdings, Isetan fell Y120 to

Y1,860 and Matsuzakaya lost Y61 to Y959. Ito-Yokado, a

supermarket chain, which last

year held negotiations to buy

Isetan shares from Shuwa, lost

Isuzu Motors, the most active issue of the day, fell Y12

to Y348 on profit-taking by

dealers. Pioneer Electronic fell Y150 to Y2,370 on reports that

the research division of Nikko

Y100 to Y3,400.

Pound Sterling Index

participants.

1153.29 1155.89 1166.50 Base value 1000 (28/10/90) High/day: 100 - 1094.96; 200 - 1159.76 Lew/day: 100 - 1090.13 200 - 1155.58 .

the afternoon as investors were

attracted by lower prices. The SMI index, little changed on the week, ended up 15.3 at 2,102.7, the level at which it had hit resistance in the morn-

Chemicals were in demand. Ciba registered shares rose SFr14 to SFr656. Roche certificates dipped to a day's low of SFr4,050 in response to overnight news of a 50 per cent drop in profits at Genentech, its US biotechnology unit. But the shares later picked up to close unchanged at SFr4,120.

AMSTERDAM featured a 5.5 per cent rise in Hoogovens, up Fl 1.30 to Fl 24.80, while a late session rumour that the state was to place its 8 per cent stake in ING sent its shares down 80 cents to F158.00. The CBS Tendency index closed 0.3 lower at 98.9, up 1.2 per cent on MILAN suffered a bout of

In Osaka, the OSE average fell 120.59 to 17,891.38, down 0.9

per cent on the week, in vol-

In the Pacific Rim, Hong Kong,

Kuala Lumpur and Seoul were

closed for the Lunar Year long

the end of the half-day session.

lifting the Straits Times Indus-

trial index 2.91 to 1,596.78, 1.5

per cent down on the week.

Volume was limited to 28.19m

shares. Many investors and

brokers had left for the week-

Acma was the most actively

traded issue gaining 4 cents to

S\$11.40 as it proposed a five-for-25 rights issue which will

accompany a bond with war-

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20 1993

Pound Sterling Index

finance an expansion.

Fraser & Neave was steady at

SINGAPORE moved ahead at

ume of 30.9m shares.

weekend holiday.

Roundup

end holiday.

SKr10 to SKr679. The Affärsvärlden index profit-taking after recent gains but the market closed mostly

Nikkei retreats amid worries on outlook margin selling and arbitrage Securities had lowered its earn- western Palawan island.

The composite index rose 10.23 to 1.341.47 for a three-day increase of 58.47 and 2.1 per cent higher on the week.

AUSTRALIAN shares turned higher, taking heart from Mr Kerry Packer's decision to roll over his Westpac Banking January call options to April calls. Westpac added 30 cents to A\$2.91, having traded as high as A\$3.00.

The All Ordinaries index benefited, closing up 3.9 at 1523.0, virtually unchanged on the west index index the west to the state of the state o

1523.0, virtually unchanged on the week.

Other banks moved higher Other banks moved higher with ANZ 2 cents up at A\$3.04 in turnover of 2.26m shares, and CBS rose 5 cents to A\$5.90. NAB slid 3 cents to A\$7.49. Ploneer, with its exposure to Westpac, rose 10 cents to A\$2.30. News Corp was strong throughout the session, closing throughout the session, closing throughout the session, closing 20 cents higher at A\$29.20. Fairfax ended steady at A\$.63 after its forecast increased

profits for 1992-93.

NEW ZEALAND was generrants issue of S\$100m to help MANILA climbed for the third day, fuelled by speculaally firmer but trading was light in the absence of foreign tion about oil drilling tests in investors. The NZSE-40 index the Malampaya well off southgained 3.06 to 1498.43.

1**982/93** Hīgh

Currency index

DOLLAR INDEX

1982/93 Low

Year | ago |approx|

dend would be cut. **LONDON SHARE SERVICE** BRITISH FUNDS - Cont.

BRITISH FUNDS BRITISH FUNDS - Cont. Prospective real redemption rate on projected inflation of (1) 1995 and (2) 5%. (b) Figures in parentheses show FIPI base for indexing de 8 months prior in assaig and have been adjusted to reflect reheating of RPI to January 1997. Conversion factor 3.945, RPI for May 1992: 139.3 and for December 1992: 139.2. 10433 952 0043 1635 10313 10313 725 822 130 1812 キャキャー チャチャ OTHER FIXED INTEREST African Dev 11¹a 2010.
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Liverpool

46/4 40/4 63(1) 36 29(1) 29 39% 35% 59 29 24 24 24 24 24

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Companies Cost.

IN THE MATTER OF COURT CAVENDSH
CARE HOMES LIMITED

VARIATION
IN THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985
Notice is learby given that a Petition was on 18th
Jamary 1993 presented to ther Majasty's High
court of Justice for the confirmation of the
reduction of the capital of the above named
Company from 18,726,277 to 13,368,562
And Notice is further given that the said Position
is directed to the beard before the Register are
Backley at The Royal Courts of Justice, Strand,
Leadon WCLA 211. on Westersday the 3rd day
of February 1993

Leaden WCZA ZLL on Westmadey the 3rd day of Fobrairy 1993
And any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confinentation of the said soluction of capital should appear at the items of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be farmished to any such person requiring the same by the underrescritioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 21 day of Jamesry 1993
NABARRO NATHANSON
30 Stranes Sevent, London WIX SPL
Ref: 6A/AOC/C1792/13
Solicitors for the above named Company.

ors for the above named Company

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Continued on next page **PORTUGAL LEGAL NOTICE**

Finance & Investment Survey 13th April 1993

The Financial Times will publish its annual in-depth review of the financial and investment acene in Portugal on the 13th of April,

Banking, Insurance, Foreign Centres are subjects which will be red by the expert team of Pinancia

Times journalists. For further information, please co

In London - RACHEL HART Tel: 671 873 3225 Fax: 071 873 3428

in Lisbon -ROBERTO FIRTH ALVES Tel: 01 888284

Fax: 01 804579 FINANCIAL TIMES

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Local % chg on day

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The World Index (2209)... 138.60 +0.1 135.36 109.52 116.38 126.53 +0.3 2.68 138.52 133.27 109.41 115.70 128.12 153.70 130.66 148.75 Copyright, The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and NatWest Securities Limited. 1987 Latest prices were unavailable for this edition.

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 FINANCIAL TIMES WEEKEND JANUARY 23/JANUARY 24 1993 20 LONDON SHARE SERVICE INVESTMENT TRUSTS - Cont. HOTELS & LEISURE - Conf.

HOTELS & LEISURE - Conf.

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19 ENGINEERING-GENERAL - Cont. HOTELS & LIESURE - Cont. **AMERICANS** + 07 Max Capem 17.8 178.1 3.06 3.96 8.70 278.0 1,281 ### 15.25 ### 15 970 3.7 8.2 \$ Price 1982 177 28 137₂ 26 92 541 地で 288 女 4 日記 105 28 22 23 257 267 **BUSINESS SERVICES** 283 Mai:
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Hotels & Leisure

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Weekend January 23/January 24 1993

Since the Bank of England is not

going to be independent, it matters

rather less who is going to be its gov-

ernor. The choice of Mr Eddie George.

announced with characteristic abrupt-

ness last night, is nonetheless perplex-

ing. As deputy governor, Mr George

has been actively involved in the

bank's affairs during a period when it has been found wanting in two of its

most important activities. It failed in

its bank supervisory role to deal early

enough with the troubles at BCCL It

was also a willing party to the UK's stubborn determination to maintain

an unrealistic exchange rate within

the ERM even when the damage to the

Mr George is an intelligent and articulate man with considerable tech-

nical central banking skills. That

makes him the safe choice in a field

which did not offer any candidate with

overwhelming appeal. The other leading contender, Sir David Scholey of

SG Warburg, might have been seen as

the City's self-serving choice. In any case, he would have been unlikely to bring to the job the authority and

international respect of Lord Richard-son who was also previously a mer-

More startling is the appointment of

a journalist as deputy governor. Mr Rupert Pennant-Rea could be seen as

an ideas man who will inject some vigour and originality into the policy debate; at The Economist he displayed

fervent support for monetary disci-

pline and the ERM exchange rate. But

what is needed in Britain is a fresh

approach to policy-making. These

appointments suggest the prime minis-ter is still hankering after old ideas. After the trauma of September 16 a

more open-minded approach to policy-making was promised. That now looks

as conveniently forgotten as the origi-

Anyone waiting for the cancelled

7.25 to Waterloo will agree that British

Rail needs to be exposed to commer-

cial pressure. But devising an accept-

able system has proved much more

difficult than in other privatisations.

In part, that reflects the unprofitabil-

ity of the railways - British Gas runs at a profit, British Rail does not. But

there are many similarities between

the two. British Gas started as a

monopoly competing in a wider energy market; British Rail runs all of

the railways but competes with other

transport systems. Both too have a

nal exchange rate pledge.

British Rail

economy was becoming obvious.



to weaken the pound, raising fears of a

fresh inflationary push. That is hardly

welcome when the underlying rate is

already pushing up towards its target

Financial markets were wrong to

anticipate that this week's poor eco-

nomic data would prompt the govern-

ment to cut rates. With unemployment

growth accelerating, though, it may

sooner or later have to cast its infla-

tion worries aside. Equally important,

a steeper yield curve may be needed to

fund next year's PSBR. The question

is how much of this has already been

discounted by sterling. A market per-ception that the exchange rate was

low enough to allow room for eventual

appreciation would encourage foreign-

ers to buy gilts. Next week's auction

will provide some clue as to whether

A year after Mr David Rowland's task force report, the problems of the

Lloyd's insurance market look as pressing as ever. Underwriting losses

show every sign of matching the gloomiest predictions. That will lead

to a further erosion of capital. If the

losses forecast by Chatset this week

prove anything like correct - and

rates continue to harden - Lloyd's will be turning away profitable business before the middle of the decade

unless new sources of capital are

The new quota-share arrangements

for attracting corporate investors are

already proving their worth. But it is

far from clear that the modest invest-

ments made by the likes of J P Morgan

this year will plug the gap. The cur-

rent rate of attrition among Names demands something more. The burdles

to direct corporate membership are

formidable. Assuming these can be

overcome, though, Lloyd's must find a

way to introduce corporate members

without alienating individual Names.

subject to limited liability, there is

plenty of scope for friction. Names fac-

ing unlimited liability - even allow-ing for the stop-loss arrangements

introduced last year - might easily

feel disadvantaged. But it can hardly

be in the interest of Names to partici-

pate in a market starved of capital.

Any insurance market worth its salt

should be able to reward varieties of

capital with appropriate rates of

return. If Lloyd's can learn to price its

risks correctly, there should be no

shortage of capital from either source.

Since corporate capital would be

this point has been reached.

Lloyd's

ceiling of 4 per cent.

THE LEX COLUMN

By George, he's got it!

FT-SE Index: 2781.2 (+7.9)

Base rate

basic infrastructure which can be

divorced from services offered - gas

marketing can be split from the pipes, trains can be split from track.

It may be that the poor state of British Rail's capital stock, its high

fixed costs, and need for continuing

public subsidy rule out selling the operation as a whole. But that solu-

tion offers some advantages. It would expose all of the railways — including the track — to direct market pressure. Other privatisations have shown that

many unlikely assets are saleable if

they are priced correctly. And effi-

ciency and service improvements com-

bined with premium prices on some

routes might justify the capital invest-

ment needed. The benefits of an integrated network would be maintained,

while management would be moti-

Ideally, internal competition within

the railways would provide benefits,

but that can be approached in a

phased way - as it has been in the gas industry. By opting for a track authority and franchised services, the

government has made rail commer-

cialisation complex, when simpler

alternatives might have solved the

Sterling's sharp fall this week is a

measure of the dilemma facing the

government. Without a resurgence of

growth, the PSBR is likely to deterio-

rate further when the government is

already expected to be raising £1bn a

week gross during the next financial

year. Since there can be no fiscal stim-

ulus, the only lever left appears to be

interest rates. Yet lower rates threaten

DID YOUR LOW RISK SAVINGS EARN

12.6% DURING 1992?

Sterling

vated to work for the change.

Sterling

Against the DM (DM/E)

Base rate

Per cent

Airline heads seek rapid end to conflict prompted by 'dirty tricks' affair

BA chief and Branson to meet

By Paul Betts and Michael

SIR COLIN MARSHALL, British Airways' chief executive and deputy chairman, will meet Mr Richard Branson, the head of Virgin Atlantic, next week in a final attempt to end the conflict trig-gered by BA's "dirty tricks" cam-

The meeting is expected to take place as early as Monday amid growing indications that both sides are anxious to improve relations which have continued to be strained despite BA's two public apologies and a £610,000 libel set-

Virgin indicated last night it wanted the issue resolved by the middle of next week, although it still threatens to take further legal action against BA in the US courts. "No one wants this affair to drag on." the airline said last

Sterling

recovery

nigs, amid increasing gloom about the prospects for an eco-

The pound fell to a low of

DM2.437 in the morning, as currency dealers speculated that the

government might cut base rates

in the near future, following the

Sterling firmed against a gener-

ally weak dollar, closing at

\$1.5345, up more than 11/2 cents.

On the London stock market,

hopes of an early interest rate

cut had helped lift share prices to

within 6 points of 2,800 on the

FT-SE 100 index of leading

Sterling has on several occa-

sions in the past three months.

dropped to the levels at which it was trading yesterday, only to

But there were signs yesterday

that the currency was under

more serious pressure.

One of the leading banks in the

London foreign exchange market

said it had received no requests

to buy the pound from its UK

corporate customers on Thursday

and that there had been barely

any improvement in the situa-

Mr Neil MacKinnon, an econo-

mist at Citibank in London, said

Thursday's economic data, which

showed a rise in seasonally

adjusted unemployment by 60,800

in December to 2.97m, had signifi-

cantly changed the currency mar-

However, Mr Steven Hannah

head of research at IBJ Interna-

tional in London, said the money

markets were now virtually dis-

counting a full percentage point

cut in base rates before the

March Budget, so that the UK

authorities could ease policy

without affecting the pound any

"The only thing that might put

Editorial Comment, Page

Currencies, Page 11

pressure on the currency is if the rate cut comes too soon," he said.

Mixed signs of recovery, Page 7

ket's mood towards sterling.

rally again to around DM2.5.

on the day.

economic data on Thursday.

nomic recovery in the UK.

pight. BA is also keen to settle affairs and legal departments in tional investors continue to the damaging affair without further aftermath of the "dirty express concern over the comther delay. But the airline is uncertain over Virgin's likely demands, which could prove too much for BA to swallow.

Mr Branson is expected to insist on cash compensation for lost revenue arising out of its rival's campaign as well as a legally binding agreement preventing any future abuse of Virgin's computer reservation information. Virgin also wants access to BA's maintenance facilities for its aircraft. Access was with-

drawn five years ago. Sir Colin emphasised this week that he was anxious to establish better relations with Virgin. while Mr Branson has indicated he would like to avoid taking any further legal action.
Although BA's executive man-

agement is continuing its investigation into its marketing, public

tricks" campaign, no sackings or resignations have so far emerged. In an effort to restore staff morale and publicly demonstrate its commitment to best business practice, BA yesterday published its new code of conduct for its

50,000 employees. "The best way to put the past behind us is to make it plain how we intend to go forward in the future," Sir Colin says in an introduction to the document.

The code sets down general standards of behaviour covering issues ranging from "fairness" and "integrity" to "honesty" and "fair competition". It urges employees: "Be prepared to challenge if you believe others are acting in an unethical way ... However, BA's attempts to restore an air of normality remain under a cloud as institupany's failure to split the roles of chairman and chief executive. Despite recent events, there

has so far been no change in the plan for Sir Colin to add the post of chairman to his existing responsibilities when Lord King steps aside as chairman in July. The issue of the future shape of

the company's board has not been raised in the immediate aftermath of the "dirty tricks" revelations. Sir Colin said this week there was "ample time" for the board to consider the issue.

Some institutional shareholders yesterday claimed that Sir Michael Angus, a BA non-executive deputy chairman, had told them that Sir Colin "would not hang around" if he was unable to hold both posts.

Details, Page 5

Clinton suffers first defeat as weakens on Baird concedes top legal job gloom over

By Jurek Martin in Washington

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton suffered his first big political defeat in the small hours of yesterday morning, his administration not yet 48 hours old, when Ms Zoe Baird STERLING came under renewed withdrew her nomination as the next US attorney general.
In his letter to Ms Baird and in pressure against the D-Mark yesterday, falling another 11/2 pfen-

remarks before his first cabinet meeting later in the morning, Mr Clinton said that he was "saddened" by her withdrawal but he had not "agonised" over accepting it. He described her as "an exceptionally gifted attorney and a person of great decency and integrity".

release of poorer-than-expected Mr Clinton said he took "full responsibility" for the fact that The Bank of England left interthe extent of the problems she est rates unchanged, but the pound still closed at DM2.44, 114 might face was not appreciated. Ms Baird, 40, would have been plennigs down on the day and the first woman to head the jusmore than 6 prennics below the tice department. level at which it closed last Fri-

She ran into severe criticism when it was revealed that she had employed two illegal immigrants, a Peruvian couple, for household work.

In her letter to Mr Clinton she wrote that she was "surprised at the extent of the public reaction" but concluded that the opportunity "to reinvigorate" the justice



Cartoonist Garry Trudeau was among many caught on the hop by Zoe Baird's midnight withdrawal. His Doonesbury strip this week has featured Ms Baird already in office as attorney general. Mr Trudeau normally delivers his strips 10 days in advance and Ms Baird will feature again in today's cartoon. But those already delivered for use later next week,

continuing controversy. In hearings this week, she confessed to breaking the law, for which she had paid both back social security taxes and a civil penalty. Mr Clinton promised to begin

also about her, will be replaced.

the search for a replacement immediately but the White House department would be lost by the avoided a commitment to finding

Baird's cause was lost with escalating speed on Thursday evening. First two Republican senators came out against her, followed by half a dozen moderate Democrats even as she con-tinued to testify before the judiciary committee well into the evening, insisting all along that she would not withdraw.

The general reaction on Capitol Hill yesterday was that in the end the president and Ms Baird had little choice but to accept defeat. Senator Patrick Leahy, the Democrat from Vermont, said he thought that if Mr Clinton had exerted maximum pressure he might have got her confirmed, "but this would have sent the wrong signal" about double stan-

As Ms Baird was falling, Mrs Hillary Clinton was very much on the rise. It emerged that her office will be in the political west wing of the White House, not the social east wing from which first ladies normally operate.

Officials denied she would be put in charge of health care reform, but expected her to be influential in formulating policy.

Background, Page 3

Man in the news. Page

EC eager to resume Gatt talks with US

By David Dodwell, World Trade Editor, In London

THE NEW US administration may be willing to match the momentum in the European Community aimed at completing the Uruguay round of talks on world trade reforms, it emerged yesterday.

Even as Mr Mickey Kantor, the new US Trade Representative, was being sworn in, plans were being made for an early resumption of US-EC talks.

Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community's Trade Commissioner, said yesterday in an interview at the Financial Times that 'momentum had been jacked up". It was now at a point where if the Clinton administration picks up the ball and runs with it" an agreement was possible before presidential power to press Uruguay Round deal quickly through Congress expires early

in March. He said he was ready to meet Mr Kantor at a moment's notice. He claimed a deal had come tantalisingly close in Geneva last week following significant headway on proposed tariff cuts in

sensitive sectors such as textiles and electronics. They stopped short because of US pr rewrite other parts of the draft Uruguay round agreement. "I don't believe that substantial changes are possible without Pandora's box being opened," Sir

"Everything depends on the attitude of the US administration." Sir Leon saw his first priority as being to impress on them "the urgency and desirability of reaching an early agreement. There is no single step which will have a more beneficial effect on the world economy than an agreement," he said.

He conceded that tangible trade gains would take time to emerge, but an important boost could come from the "announce-ment effect" of a breakthrough. "If there is some degree of common perception not of the deal, but of the necessity for a deal and the approach towards a deal, we can give instructions to negotlators to go back to Geneva and

Deadlines have constantly been broken for completion of the Uru-guay round talks.

Continued from Page 1

cross-party trade and industry select committee, which meets to finalise its report on the sector early next week.

There were suggestions that Tory committee members might use the independent reports to argue for recommendations that would save too few of the 31 threatened pits to be acceptable to some Labour members. The select committee report is expec-ted to be published on Friday. Among the reports, Boyd

whose future is undecided could operate on a profitable basis within three years. The number would rise to 13 if laws restricting changes in working practices and management were removed. Caminus Energy said that in a free market where rival fuels were relatively cheap, British Coal's total sales, failing contractual arrangements with generators, could fall from 86m tonnes

suggested that six of the 21 pits

this year to 21m next.
The two other reports, by Ernst & Young and Pims, suggested ways for British Coal to make significant savings in manageup to 3,000 senior staff jobs.

Reports on pit closures

†GROSS RETURN 1992 WHITTINGDALE GILT INCOME FUND 12.6%Abbey National Investment Account (90 Day) 8.0%

Leeds Permanent Solid Gold Account (90 Day) 7.9%Halifax 90 Day Xtra Account 7.8%

WHITTINGDALE GILT **INCOME FUND**

- Can offer protection against falling interest rates 12.6% gross in 1992.
- Current estimated gross yield 8%.
- Building Society rates now down to about 5 6% and likely to fall further.
- Invests only in Government guaranteed securities and cash.

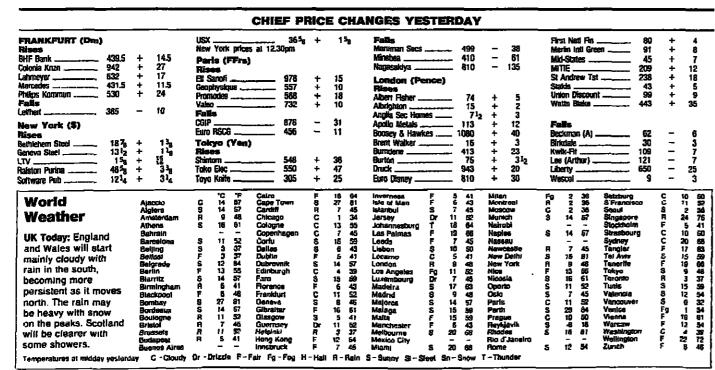
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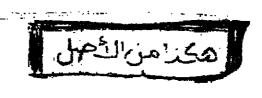


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God at the end of a telescope

Christian Tyler asks: Has the Roman Catholic Church at last been converted to science?

phenomena which sense experience reveals to us or which are proved to us by the necessary demonstration can be held in any doubt whatsoever, or rejected, because of some passages in the Scriptures which in their literal wording seem to be at variance

SECTION II

Galileo Galilei; letter to the Grand Duchess Cristina di Lorena, 1614. (trans: Shmuel Sambursky)

N A MOUNTAIN peak high above the little town of Thatcher, Arizona, Jesuit astronomers from the Vatican have taken up station behind two new telescopes to peer into the atmosphere surrounding the youngest stars in the Milky Way.

"Our purpose is not to look for extraterrestrial life," said Father George Coyne, director of the Vatican Observatory and a professor at the University of Arizona (which has a quarter share in the telescopes). "But we might incidentally discover conditions for the birth of new planets.

The 10.700-ft peak of Mount Graham, home to a rare red squirrel, the pocket gopher and the whitebellied vole, thus becomes the scientific summit of the Specola Vaticana, created by Pope Gregory XIII to help his 1582 reform of the calen-

be competing with the world's best astrophysicists may seem quaintly anachronistic, even ludicrous. For do science and religion not give rival accounts of the universe? Is not God simply a device for explaining the parts that science cannot yet reach? To those who believe that every scientific advance entails a theological retreat, the Vatican's formal rehabilitation of Galileo at the end of October came as just one more proof of the archaic cosmogony of the Roman Catholic Church.

ARN - EARN

"It seems that not one of the natural If it took 360 years to issue that retraction, how can Roman Catholic theology hope to keep up? If the church is still wrestling with the consequences of the two apples -Eve's and Newton's - how can it hope to accommodate quarks, gluons or the Big Bang?

Yet the antagonism of faith and science is a relatively modern invention. Even the furore over Darwin's theory of evolution has been exaggerated. Most of the scientific pioneers were believers, and some were clergymen - Descartes, Newton, Kepler, Galileo, Bishop Berkeley, Locke and, in this century, the Jesuit palaeontologist Teilhard de Chardin. Copernicus, proponent of the heliocentric universe, was canon of Frauenberg cathedral.

As scientific accounts of the subatomic and cosmic worlds become ever more incredible - or counter-intuitive in the jargon - physicists are ever more careful to distinguish the "how" questions of science from the "why" questions of theology. As theologian Seán P. Kealy has put it: science is like a photograph of the world, faith like an x-ray. But both

This is the distinction which Pope John Paul II insisted upon when he commented on the report of the Vatican's commission of inquiry into the Galileo affair. "A tragic mutual incomprehension has been interpreted as the reflection of a fundamental opposition between sad misunderstanding now belongs to the past."

Cardinal Paul Poupard, former rector of the Catholic Institute of Paris, was president of the commission. He said from his office in the Vatican this week: "This is my very profound conviction too. For the believer, both kinds of knowledge come from the same fount. As Galileo himself said, there are two big books, the book of nature and the book of super-nature, the Bible." For example, added the cardinal,

the Big Bang hypothesis (accepted by the church as consistent with Revelation) did not prove or disprove anything to the theologian. As Pascal, my favourite author wrote: it is a question of another

n Galileo's day, questions of two orders were not acknowledged. So, on February 26 1616, the Pisan astronomer was condemned by the Holy Office for reinforcing the heliocentric hypothesis of Copernicus. Only 16 years before, the Dominican philosopher Giordano Bruno had been sent to the stake for a similar Copernican crime.

Galileo's case was more complex. He was in good odour with Rome but was stubborn, provocative and influential. Writing in language that everyone could understand he had spread his fame throughout Europe. Under pressure from Cardinal Roberto Bellarmino, chief inquisitor and hammer of the here-

tics' - and a student of astronomy himself - Galileo agreed to desist. But in 1632 he published his *Dialogo* sopra i due massimi sistemi, tolemaico e copernicano, repeating the alleged libel on the Scriptures. The Florentine inquisition ordered the book to be seized - too late. Although he enjoyed the protec-

tion of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Galileo was summoned to Rome, interrogated and in spite of a vigorous defence in which he insisted that God spoke to mankind equally through nature and revelation, was forced to recant on April 30 1633. A sentence of imprisonment was passed on June 22 but reduced to one of house arrest two days later. He spent the last nine years of his life confined to his villa in Arcetri, his health, his sight and his spirit in

Historians have argued that it was the manner as much as the matter of Galileo's argument that led to his victimisation - that, and the insecurity of the church under When scientific proof arrived in the following century Gailleo's works were given the *imprimatur* and removed from the Vatican's notorious index of prohibited books. That decision was upheld in the 19th century and reconfirmed by the papal encyclical Providentissi*mus Deus*, in 1893.

Weekend January 23/January 24 1993

But the story did not end there. The present Pope, Karol Wojtyla, is a graduate and former theology professor of Krakow University where the German-Slav Mikolaj Kopernik (to give Copernicus his real name) studied maths, optics and perspective.
Although regarded as a conserva-

tive in other respects, the Polish Pope gave an early signal of his wish to repair the Vatican's reputation among scientists by setting up the special commission on the Galileo affair a year after being elected pontiff, on the 100th anniversary of Albert Einstein's birth. There is talk of a forthcoming papal encycli-cal, to be called Splendor Veritatis, the contents of which are not known but some Vatican insiders say will reflect the Pope's interest in reconciling the two branches of Some see the hand of another

priestly Pole at work: Michael Heller, a mathematical physicist and theologian who teaches at Kra-kow University, is a confidant of Wojtyla's and an "adjunct" member of staff of the Vatican Observatory. He has been involved in a series of science summits at which non-Catholic, even non-Christian, experts are invited to read papers and debate with the theologians.

What impressed me was that it

Pope Urban VIII. At all events, the great scientist was the victim of a judgment which the Vatican commission has now declared to be wrong, but not aberrant: that is to say, in the then state of knowledge the Holy Office had no choice but to condemn the heresy.

was very hard work," said Prof John Barrow, professor of astron-omy at Sussex University in England who attended a seminar last year. "There were 20 or 30 of us round a big table and we worked from 9 a.m. to 6.30 in the evening with an hour for lunch. The papers were circulated six months in advance and took several hours to read. It was not like the usual sci-once meeting." This series of meetings, run in conjunction with the Centre for Theology and Natural Sciences at Berkeley, California, is in addition to occasional briefings organised for the benefit of the observatory's ten Jesuit staff.

rof Stephen Hawking, the cosmologist who holds Newton's chair at Cambridge, was another of those summoned. In his best-selling Brief History of Time, Hawking gave an ironic account of his audience with the Pope: "He told us that it was all right to study the evolution of the universe after the Big Bang, but we should not inquire into the Big Bang itself because that was the moment of Creation and therefore the work of God." He was glad, he added, that Pope John Paul had not heard him read the paper in which he had argued that space-time was possibly finite but with no boundary - and therefore there could be no moment of creation. "I had no desire to share the fate of Galileo."

There is no 'Galileo cloud', said Fr Coyne, the observatory's director. "In 30 years I have never had any problem with any colleague concerning the relationship of sci-ence and faith." He did, however, admit to a shortage of scientificallytrained theologians within the Cath-olic church. "We have to look in every corner to find a Catholic or even Christian expert".

But can the message of scripture, however judiciously interpreted, and the hypotheses of modern science, however cautiously advanced, ever be truly reconciled?

No, says the biologist and writer Richard Dawkins. "There will always be conflict between the two. You cannot get away from the fact that religion is a scientific hypothe-sis: to say there is a Creator is to make a scientific claim, and science cannot ignore that. Then you have to explain miracles like the virgin birth and the resurrection.

"It makes me cross that religion should have this power over people's lives and education and thought. I think the whole thing Is a total illusion. Why doesn't the Vatican learn the lesson? They were not just wrong about Galileo - that bungle was only a detail - but their whole attitude of thinking you can decide things by appealing to authority is wrong."

Dawkins concedes that some scientist-theologians make a good fist of squaring their beliefs. Asked to explain why so many scientists continue to accept God he suggested the human brain could be infected by something akin to a self-Continued on Page VIII

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Robin Lane Fox Books : Gillian Tindali on a new

biography of Clemenceau

Private View: The Yugoslav bloodbath



Banks and top-rate taxpayers are

The Long View/Barry Riley

Independent illusions



ONCE AGAIN the trade nvestment industry is buzzing with alarm about the renewed threat to that beleaguered group, the pro-viders of independent financial advice. They are the ones who like to put blue IFA

logos on their office doors.

The plan to transfer these advisers of which there are some 6,300 authorised firms - from their tottering regulatory body Fimbra (which is being kept alive only by financial transfusions from insurance companies) to a new body called the Personal Investment Authority is in deep trouble. Andrew Large, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, says he will not recognise the PIA unless its preliminary prospectus is changed so that a number of conditions are met. One of these is that the PIA must vet all the IFAs thoroughly before accepting them, and must not simply take the view that they can be grandfathered over from Fimbra. The PIA will certainly not now

and may well be stillborn.

There is a lot of tedious financial industry politics in all this, but the question of independent advice is an important one. The UK is unusual in having a large group of independent intermediaries, who as recently as 20 years ago accounted for the bulk of life insurance and pensions business, and still sell maybe a third. On the Continent most savings products of this kind

start operations on July 1, as scheduled,

are sold through banks or by salesmen. When the UK's new investment regulation framework was being developed in the mid-1980s it was rightly thought vital to protect the tradition of independent advice. Unfortunately a serious mistake was made. The IFAs did not accurately recognise their own function, which was essentially to act as freelance marketing agents who could sell products for a large number of independent life offices, not to mention other providers such as unit trust companies. Because of the existence of this

independent distribution channel the UK has been able to sustain a large number of innovative and competitive life companies which have generally offered good value to investors. But the IFAs had bigger ideas. They considered they were investment experts whose job it was to offer best advice to clients.

This was seriously over-optimistic in most cases, because truly professional IFAs would require proper experience and qualifications and would be remu-nerated by their clients through fees; in fact IFAs are almost always remunerated through commissions from the product providers.

With ideas a long way above their

real station in life, the IFAs and their trade associations saw the new Finan-cial Services Act (intended to improve investor protection) as a way of securing a marketing advantage. They insisted that they alone should have the right to multiple representation; other intermediaries could act only for one company. The gloss put on this "polarisation" was that it protected the public against conflicts of interest. But for the IFAs the point was that it restricted the banks and building societies in their plans to develop the retailing of investment products.

s recently as the beginning of this month we saw one of the belated effects of this National Westminster Bank finally abandoned its attempt to persevere as the last major High Street mul-ti-branch IFA. The entirely superfluous NatWest Life is now in operation, and leading independent offices such as Clerical Medical and Standard Life have lost an important source of business.

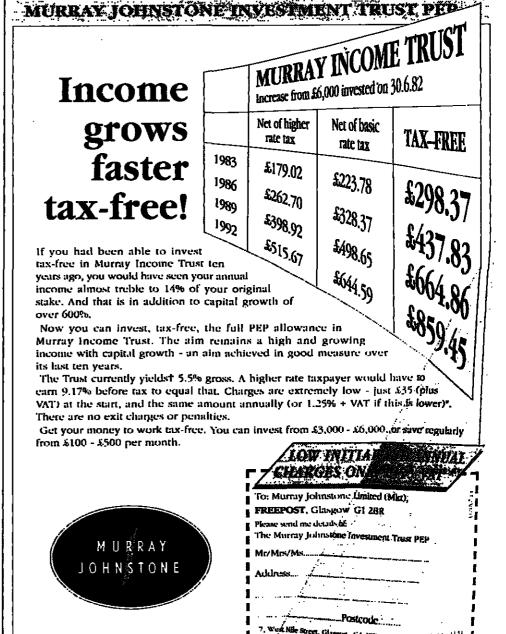
But in winning the battle against the banks in the 1980s the IFAs overplayed their hand. The new rules required them to give "best advice" and to subscribe to a compensation scheme through which good IFAs must pay for the losses inflicted on the public by the rogues and the incompetents. For a truly professional industry this should not have been a problem. Alas, in too many cases the IFAs have failed to

match their own image of themselves. Many firms have been closed or gone into liquidation, and there is concern that the courts may make big awards against certain IFAs in favour of victims of home income plans, the pack-ages of mortgages and insurance bonds that have left many pensioners facing repossession of their homes. The financial viability of the IFAs' regulator Fimbra has been undermined. If it collapses the law says that the IFAs must find authorisation elsewhere or cease trad

Moreover the banks are out for revenge. If the IFAs had not been so keen to drive the banks and building societies out of multi-provider retailing the IFAs might have lost some of their marketing distinctiveness but they would have shared some regulatory interests with the banks. As it is, the banks see the IFAs purely as competitors that would be better eliminated. They are well-placed to kill the PIA but are negotiating as they would prefer not to be seen with a smoking gun. If the worst comes to the worst most IFAs will have to sign up as the tied agents of single life companies. A few may be able to gain authorisation from other regulators. There remain accoun-tants, solicitors and other professionals who are authorised to give independent advice by their professional institutes. In due course a professional body of specialist IFAs could be formed to authorise firms in the same way. But these would cater for a limited group of high net worth clients rather than the mass market.

Would the drastic shrinkage of the IFA sector matter? The problem would be not so much that people would get worse advice (this aspect has been exaggerated) as that they would suffer a reduction in choice and in value for money. The retail investment market in the UK would become much like that on the Continent, and many venerable institutions would disappear, while the likes of NatWest Life would thrive.

It would scarcely be the end of the



MARKETS

UK General Government Borrowing Requirement (£bn)

London Shareholders suffer from dirty tricks

By Peter Martin, Financial Editor

Had BA shares moved in line O FAR, it seems to be with the rest of the UK market shareholders rather than airline executives since late December, they would today be selling at some who have paid the price for British Airways' thing like 306p, compared with the closing price of 265p on shoddy behaviour towards Richard Branson's Virgin Thursday, just before the board released its statement of Atlantic. self-exculpation. If that figure On Thursday, the BA board exonerated its own members; it is a guide to the damage caused by the scandal, it remains to be seen whether means that shareholders, colless senior members of the air-

line's staff face disciplinary

Share index by 13 per cent.

lectively, are worse off by around £300m - a figure that Shareholders' punishment dwarfs the £2m or so paid to Branson in costs and settlehas been swifter. Since late December, when rumours of a On Friday, as institutional settlement in the case with Virgin first began to circulate. investors digested the fact that British Airways has under-per-BA did not plan to follow their advice to keep separate the formed the FT-Actuaries All-

executive, the share price rose Perhaps more revealing is a 4½p on the week, closing at comparison with three publicly traded European airlines. The BA board might be for-KLM. Swissair and Lufthansa. given for feeling that this par-During 1992, British Airways ticular piece of advice has a outperformed all of them by more than 100 per cent; since one-size-fits-all quality. Whenever there is a set-back at a late December, it has done company, regardless of its cause, institutional investors worse than all of them, underperforming Swissair and and call for a separation of powers. Lufthansa by over 20 per cent.

82 will recover well," and there This week, their advice prewould be good profits in the future. "We have a strong capivailed in the case of Barclays. Andrew Buxton, who this tal base that is amply suffimonth became chairman as

UK General Government **Borrowing Requirement**

Gift yields and government borrowing

20 year Gilt Redemption Yield (%)

well as chief executive, sent a letter to the bank's senior managers. "I have taken notice of what our shareholders think," he wrote, "and I will be taking steps to split the responsibili-ties." The move will happen "at a time of our choosing", thought to be later this year. As if to reward him, Barclays shares rose 39p during the week, closing at 413p. The rise probably stems, however, from a growing belief among analysts that Barclays' dividend is safe. That view was clinched, for Terry Smith of the stockbrokers Collins Stewart, by some of the small print in Andrew Buxton's letter. This year, said the chairman, would be one for recovery rather than

prosperity. "I am completely

confident, however, that we

cient to absorb the problems we have suffered." Short of desperation, compa

nies do not usually trim dividends if earnings recovery can be expected in the foreseeable future. If the Barclays board takes that approach, the wording of the letter is the strongest evidence yet for the view that the dividend is safe. The letter summed up

another theme of the week. Even the most optimistic economic forecasters are now predicting only a slow and diffi-cult climb out of the current world-wide recession," wrote Buxton. As if on cue, poor economic statistics were released.

On Wednesday, retail sales for December fell disappointingly short of expectations fuelled by all those reports of last-minute pre and post-Christmas buying. On Thursday, a fresh batch of gloomy figures appeared. Unemploysonally adjusted, rose by 60,800 in the month to December, nearly twice as fast as City economists had expected. Industrial production figures for November showed a 0.5 per cent drop in manufacturing output, to a level 0.2 per cent lower than a year before.

The markets, which had already been toying with the expectation of an early cut in interest rates, took the numbers as further pressure on the government to act. The futures market's short sterling contract closed the week at a level implying base rates of 61/2 per cent or less by March, down from their current 7 per cent. Sterling weakened sharply

on Thursday, and closed the

week at DM 2.44, down 6% pfennigs from the previous Friday. Equities, which had fallen on Monday and Tuesday, recovered strongly as the market absorbed the economic sta-tistics, and the FT-SE 100 index closed the week at 2781.2 up

92

91

Shorter- and medium-term gilts followed the same pattern, influenced by base-rate expec tations. Long-term gilts, more influenced by Tuesday's announcement that there had been a sharp rise in public-sector borrowing in December,

moved the other way, however. The economists at Goldman Sachs, previously rather bullish on the outlook for gilts, announced themselves more pessimistic, partly as a result high on January 4. of a study of the way budget

deficits affect bond yields. Although it is hard to detect strong relationship between the two in the chart above Goldman Sachs's Jeremy Hale calculates that "a 1 per cent increase in the budget deficit as a percentage of gdp will tend to increase gilt yields by 0.33 per cent . .

The Goldman economists forecast public sector borrowing to rise by just over 2 percentage points of gup by the 1993-4 financial year. That means, they say, that after adjusting for a few offsetting factors, the equilibrium yield on 10-year gilts this year should be between 9 and 9.3 per cent, compared with just under 8% per cent today. Using this method, they add, "the gilt market currently appears as one of the least attractive of the world's government bond markets." A chilly welcome, you might think, for Eddie George, the new governor of the Bank of England.

Serious Money

The fundamental approach to shares

By Philip Coggan, Personal Finance Editor

times for savers. Interest rates have fallen across the board, and many will be looking for an alternative to building societies.

Gilts are one option, since many issues offer a higher yield than is available from cash. However, shorter dated issues offer yields of only six to seven per cent; and many medium-dated issues are trading above par, which means that investors are locking themselves in to a capital loss. Investors might also be cautious about buying gilts at a time when the government is being forced to issue so many

growing, budget deficit. What about equities? Many savers will have memories of buying at the top of the market in 1987 and will be cautious about repeating the same mistake, particularly as the FT-SE 100 index reached an all-time

of them to cover a large, and

So, it is worth a look at the fundamental ratios to see what they tell us. First the good news. Although both the Footsie and the FT-A All-Share have recently reached all-time nominal highs, they have not done so in real (adjusted for inflation) terms. On that basis, the All-Share is still below its levels in 1987 and 1989 and indeed, those achieved in the

late 1960s and early 1970s. Secondly, the yield ratio still makes shares look relatively attractive. This measures the relationship of gilt and equity yields - when the ratio is high, gilts are offering considerably greater returns than shares, and this often indicates that share prices are too high. When the ratio is low, shares may be cheap.

Experts argue about the usefulness of the ratio, but two recent examples illustrate its merits. According to Datastream, the ratio reached its low of 1.73 (for the period 1976-93) on July 27 last year. Since

HESE are difficult then, shares have risen by almost 20 per cent. The ratio's high for the same period was 3.46. achieved two weeks before Black Monday's share price crash. At the moment, the ratio is around 2, well below the 1976-93 average of 2.3.

If one compares the returns on equities and cash, shares also look relatively attractive. Again one can argue about the significance of this ratio, but if one uses three-month Libor to illustrate cash returns, this ratio reached its peak (for the period 1976-93) at the start of 1990. As theory would expect, 1990 proved a very good year to be in cash and a very bad year to invest in shares.

The current ratio is 1.56, well below the 1976-93 average of 2.35. In practice, this means it is now possible for top-rate taxpayers in the right pep to achieve a higher net return than they could achieve at most building societies.

UT now the bad news. The price-earnings ratio measures the relationship of share prices to corporate profits: the higher the ratio, the more expensive (in theory) share prices are. The ratio reached its 1976-93 peak (21 on the FT-A 500 Index) in the sum-

The p/e on the FT-A 500 is now 17.3, well above the 1976-93 average of 11.2. On that basis, share prices are expensive, not cheap. Bulls would argue that the UK is coming out of a recession and that profits will soon rise sharply. The historical p/e is thus irrelevant; it is future earnings that matter. However, the UK was also coming out of a recession in the early 1980s; and historic oles were much lower then

than they are now. The dividend yield on the All-Share has proved quite a good guide to the attractions of shares over the years. On the plus side, it is currently higher than inflation (a rare occurrence over the last 25 years); on the negative side, at 4.4 per cent, it is lower than the historical average of five per cent. which has proved a good benchmark through high inflation eras and low.

So, what is the message of all these statistics? One certainly cannot say "shares are cheap; fill your boots". But history has taught Britons that it is unwise to ignore shares altogether. So the first choices for those who want to buy equities should be low-cost unit or investment trust savings schemes (to smooth out the highs and lows); or one of the many types of guaranteed products on the market. The latter can be complicated so read the small print.

• I have had considerable response to my article two weeks ago about Michael O'Higgins's stockpicking theory. Let me stress that this is no "magic" route to profits (no such thing could ever exist); and that, as one reader correctly pointed out, a portfolio of just five stocks must inherently involve more risk.

Just to restate the theory; it involves taking the 10 highestyielding stocks in the index and, of those, selecting the five with the lowest share prices. The process needs to be repeated once a year, with old stocks discarded.

The FT-30 index which I used to provide a British counterpart to the Dow is less frequently updated than it used to be. A reader with a good database might want to test the theory using the FT-SE 100 Index since launch.

The current constituents of the FT-30 are: Allied Lyons. Asda, BICC, BOC, BTR, Blue Circle, Boots, British Airways, British Gas, BP, BT, Cadbury Schweppes, Courtaulds, Forte, GEC, Glaxo, GrandMet, GKN, Guinness, Hanson, ICI, Lucas, Marks and Spencer, NatWest, P&O. Reuters. Royal Insurance, SmithKline Beecham, Tate & Lyle and Thorn EMI.

2281.0 Base rate hopes. FT-SE 100 Index 2861.5 2781.2 + 16.1 2157.8 Interest returns to FT-SE stocks. FT-SE Mid 250 Index 2909.0 + 18.4 2919.3 274 Broker buy recommendations. **Barciays** 413 **-** 39 416 Setting shop opening hours. 1634 **Brent Walker** +912 Taiwan Aerospace deal. **British Aerospace** 215 +30 379 698 Announced sell of JM stake. Charter Consolidated +49 Dividend concerns. 175 General Accident + 21 Hoare Govett buy note -71 Caution ahead of figures. 1310 Standard Chartered +68 Broker buy notes/bid speculation Tadpole Technology ÷ 46 239 Institutional buying. 518 Directors shares option sales. -23 434 PCN competition lears. S.G. Warburg recommendation 67 191 ¹2 110 Positive results. 134

86 88 90 92

roles of chairman and chief

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

1992/93

1992/93

Yorks. Tyne-Tees TV AT A GLANCE Investment trust Oil price Brent Blend Crude (\$ per barrel) Sums invested (£m)

Oil market fails to react to air strikes against frag

Oil prices shrugged off the air strikes against Iraq. Two years ago, the aftermath of Iraq's invasion of Kuwalt pushed oil prices to their highest in years but this time there was little

North Sea Brent crude for March delivery increased by about 30 cents a barrel on January 13, the day of the air strikes but ended the day unchanged at \$17.10 a barrel. The lack of activity underlines the weakness of the market. Prices have been depressed because of overproduction by Opec, with Brent crude falling by \$1 a barrel since the beginning of the year.

Fall in savings schemes

investment trust savings schemes last year showed their first annual fall since the schemes began in 1984. The total amounted invested through savings schemes for the year was £115.5m, down from £119.5m for 1991. ociation of Investment Trust Companies attributed the tall in the year to poor stock market performance and lack of investor confidence because of the weak economy. However, the final intake of £33.49m last quarter was strong. Lump sum investments accounted for most of this rise, totalling

£21.72m, an increase of 87 per cent on the third quarter Chase de Vere's pep guide

Chase de Vere has produced a new edition of its Pep Guide which gives details of Personal Equity Plans available. The guide gives performance figures for unit, investment trust and single company Peps, but not managed plans. The top single company Peps, but not managed plans. I ne top performing unit trust Pep over the last three years was the St James's Place PEP Progressive with a rise of 81.2 per cent. The guide is available for £9.95 form: Pepguide, Chase de Vere Investments, 63 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3JX.

Revenue may repay benefit tax Employees who have paid tax based on more than the

marginal or additional cost of their in-house benefits may be eligible for repayments, the inland Revenue said this week.

These benefits include goods sold at a discount, services and lacilities provided in-house, or business assets made available

Smaller companies still rally

Smaller company shares resumed their rally this week. The County Small Companies Index rose 1.2 per cent, from 973.25 to 985.11, over the seven days to January 21; the Hoare Govett index (capital gains version) increased 0.6 per cent from 1251.67 to 1258.27 over the six days to January 20.

The FT Quarterly Review

A new tax year starts in just over nine weeks, heralding the risk that the government may increase direct taxation or reduce the scope of tax shelters. It is therefore time for savers and investors to take advantage of tax-efficient vehicles still available, and to check that their finances are structured in the most tax-efficient way. The winter issue of the FT Ouarterly Review of Personal Finance, to be published with next Friday's paper and repeated with Saturday's, in the UK only, offers a checklist of things to do with April 5 in mind. The review also includes a survey on Personal Equity Plans.

Wall Street

The money engine begins to lose power

Dow Jones Industrial Average

'S WALL Street's earnings engine, which has been firing on all cylinders for the best part of the last two years, running out of fuel? After a record-breaking 1991, and an even better start to 1992, growth in brokinghouse earnings appears to have slowed in the final quarter of last year, judging by

some of this week's results. PaineWebber, the fourth higgest brokerage firm in the US, and Bear Stearns, another prominent Wall Street operator, reported earnings that told the same story. Revenues from stockbroking commissions were strong in the October-to-December period, but sizeable declines in revenues from investment banking, and smaller falls in proprietary securities trading earnings, meant that total profits for the quarter were lower than in the

same period of 1991. Although the disappointing final quarter did not completely take the shine off what was a remarkable 1992 for both firms, PaineWebber was sufficiently concerned about the outlook for this year to announce that it had begun a hiring freeze among adminis-

value of homes stops falling.

Budget in March. Recovery

But while the sector is likely

to continue to underperform

sterling's devaluation.

HE FESTIVE season

for retailers lasted lit-

trators and support staff in an attempt to restrain costs.

In both companies, the fall in investment banking earnings was primarily the result of a slowdown at the end of last year in the hectic pace at which new equities and bonds have been issued. Extremely strong corporate demand for underwriting services has been one of the key elements of Wall Street's two-year boom, so any sign that this

cause for concern. Investors, however, are being warned not to turn away from brokerage stocks just yet. If the first three weeks of 1993 are anything to go by, Wall Street's investment bankers are as busy today as they have ever been.

demand my be waning is a

Keen to take advantage of a strong bond market, which has pushed interest rates to new lows, companies have been issuing debt in record numbers this year. As of January 21, companies had sold \$28.3bn of bonds, making it highly likely that the old monthly record of \$36.8bn, set in January of last year, will soon be eclipsed.

The rate of new issuance

Nov shows no sign of slowing down. On Thursday alone, Dean Witter, Discover & Co. the securities broking and credit card operation soon to be sold by retailing giant Sears, Roebuck, announced it

and equity securities.

Jan The fall in underwriting business in the fourth quarter of 1992, therefore, may turn out to have been a brief inter-

ruption of an upward trend. Elsewhere in the financials sector, bank stocks were intends to sell \$3bn of its debt cheered this week by further securities. UAL, parent of evidence that the recovery in the US banking industry is United Airlines, filed plans to raise \$1.5bn through the sale of a variety of fixed-income now fully underway.

with a profitable final quarter, which helped the group return to the black in 1992 after big losses the previous year. Expense reductions have played a vital part in Citicorp's revival, a point that was mirrored at other banks, such as Chase Manhattan and Chemical Banking, which unveiled strong fourth quarter earnings achieved in part because of effective cost cutting and restructuring mea-

banking sector, led the way

Perhaps the clearest sign that the worst is over for the banking industry, however, came not from the big New York money centres, but from their counterparts on the Pacific coast.

BankAmerica, recently completed its merger with fellow San Francisco bank Security Pacific, was reported to be close to reaching an agreement to sell as much as \$2bn in bad property loans to Morgan Stanley Realty Fund. Analysts said the transaction indicated that capital is finally returning to the beleaguered California prop-erty market, which bodes well Citicorp, which came to symbolise the problems of the for those west-coast banks

which have struggled in recent years under the weight of soured commercial property

A few days later, shares in another California bank, Wells Fargo, took off after the group reported that its annual earnings had improved more than tenfold to \$283m. Investors rushed to buy the stock on the news, sending it soaring \$13 to

This week also included a stark warning to anyone who invests heavily in high-flying biotechnology stocks. The market capitalisation of Centocor plummeted more than 60 per cent in just one day after the company announced it was halting testing of its Centoxin drug, which is used in the treatment of an often-fatal condition called septic shock, because an unexpectedly high number of patients had died while using the drug in trials.

Patrick Harverson

	-	
Monday	3274.91 +	8.7
Tuesday	3255.99	18.9
Wednesday	3241.95 -	14.0
Thursday	3253.02 +	11.0
Friday		

The Bottom Line/Neil Buckley

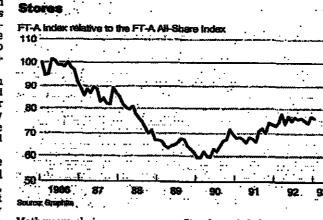
tle longer than the Retailers miss that festive fun traditional 12 days of Christmas, if this week's official sales figures are anything to go by, but that does not

mean investors should abanthe stock market by between 12 and 20 per cent, it is don the sector. The prospect of chancellor Norman Lamont's hoped-for unlikely to collapse. The earnconsumer-led recovery - from ings quality of some of the which retailers, naturally, heavyweight stocks tends to would be the first to benefit support the sector at the botstill seems distant. Most retailtom of this range. ers believe consumers will not start spending any extra

For the cautious, stocks such as Marks and Spencer and money they have acquired as a Great Universal Stores offer result of lower interest rates the prospect of safe, steady until they can be more certain growth. Some would include Ringfisher, W H Smith and Boots in this category. of keeping their jobs, and the There is further anxiety However, analysts say there about the possibility of an

are other shares which could increase in VAT or national show greater growth potential, insurance contributions in the even if the economy does not recover, or picks up only could also be slowed by an slowly. Investors prepared to increase in retail prices, which take some risks might decide many retailers are warning is to take profits on stocks like M imminent. They say they can no longer afford to carry the and S and GUS and invest in some with more exciting prosincreased cost of imports after pects.

The stock widely seen as the hottest in the sector is Storehouse, owner of the BhS and



Mothercare chains. "Storehouse has a momentum all of its own in terms of recovery," says Kimlan Cook, stores analyst at County Nat-

She adds that the new management, led by the American David Dworkin, has sorted out

Storehouse's balance sheet, disposing of the Habitat and Rich-

ards chains, and begun to transform the company into a clearly-focused retailer. Moreover. Dworkin's reform process has just started in BhS, and

potential in Mothercare.

could unlock huge untapped

John Hoerner, chief executive, this month announced the loss of 2,000 full-time jobs but the creation of up to 3,000 part-time ones, in a wide-ranging rationalisation and costcutting programme. Observers are divided about whether

even the experienced and tough-talking Hoerner can turn around a company with 10 different trading formats - some of which are looking distinctly tired. But with about £2bn turnover and among the lowest margins in the sector, the scope for growth is huge.

som whether or not the econ-

omy improves - although over

a longer period than at Store-

and maker, is heavily dependent on a pick-up in the hous-Feelings are more mixed ing market. But with the highabout Burton, the fashion est operating margins in the retailing group, which is also sector, about 60 per cent, any being shaken up by new management. Some believe this is another stock that could blos-

signs of such a pick-up will have a sharp impact on its profits. Argos, essentially a consumer durables retailer, also stands to gain strongly from any recovery in spending. Analysts say it is a well-managed company - one of the retailers

best- equipped to prosper. Dixons, the UK's largest electrical retailer, continues to trade well in the UK. White goods could see a big upturn if the housing market improves. Concern over continuing losses at its Silo chain in the US deters some analysts from rec-

ommending it. In the meantime, retailers will continue to pray for that recovery, and that next year's Christmas lasts longer than the last. There are, after all, Other interesting prospects only 280 shopping days to go.

are offered by the "quality cyclicals", well-run companies whose fortunes tend to mirror

very closely the general state

MFI, as a furniture retailer

of the economy.

FINANCE AND THE FAMILY

The lesson of hindsight: the best buys of 1988

may have been time, but investors have actually enjoyed quite good returns over the past five years. Interest rates have been high for much of the period, but equity-based products have also shown decent profits despite the impact of adverse factors such as the UK recession and the Gulf War.

The table shows that most commonly-held investments have managed to beat inflation and that a significant number of products have produced nominal returns of more than 50 per cent. It also may tell you what you should have invested in five years ago.

Tax efficiency helps – which is why, looking at the average figures, friendly society bonds and managed pension funds

are top of the list. The snag is that, though the percentage returns are high, it would have been hard to become rich out of a friendly society investment. The maximum monthly contribution into a friendly society in 1988 was £9 a month

Also, friendly society rules

an investment for another five years - you would only get back your premiums if you surrendered early.

Pension funds also have strong tax advantages and the average figures look good. However, those who are about to retire may find that the

impact of basic rate tax only. Building society returns were not too far behind indexlinked National Savings (at least for larger depositors) and were marginally ahead of unit trusts. The Cheltenham & Gloucester returns are net of basic rate tax and assume the recent falls in annuity rates investor switched from the offset their profits. Just Gold account to the London

Philip Coggan on the most successful investments of the past five years

because they have a bigger pension fund, they will not necessarily get a higger pen-sion than they would have a year ago.

Elsewhere, what will strike many savers is that it was possible to get a very good return at minimal risk. Index-linked National Savings offered a healthy 63 per cent return and allowed the investor to sleep at night without any worries about safety. Indeed for top rate taxpayers, index-linked look even better in comparison; since several other of the

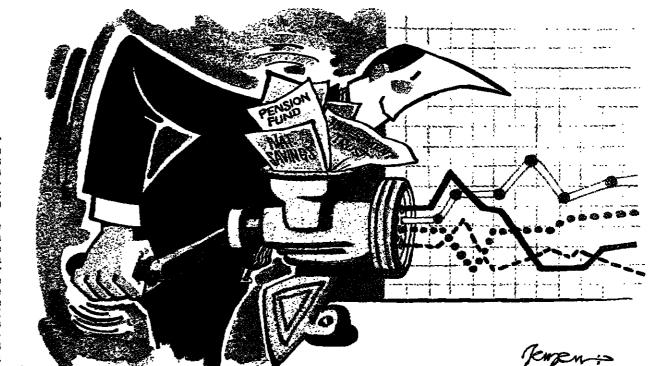
deposit account at the right

In January 1988, the Crash of October 1987 was very fresh in investor's minds. Few inves-tors will have been venturing into equities at that time. Those who did take the plunge will have done moderately well, but not extraordinarily

We have included the stock market indices purely as a guide. They reflect capital gains only, and do not include the yield. On the other hand, they do not allow for any costs spreads, brokers' commissions and stamp duty, the factors likely that many private investors will have struggled to beat the returns from the FT-SE 100 index or the All-Share. Of the main markets, the

best place to have picked in January 1988 was the US. The Dow Jones index more than doubled, in sterling terms, over the past five years, with more than a bit of help from the pound's decline against the dollar. The best way for a UK via a North American investment trust (up an average 174.3 per cent over five years) or a unit trust (up 117.5 per cent). Most UK investors, however,

stay close to home, and the average returns for all trusts are less impressive. Investment trusts look better than unit trusts in the table but savers should be aware of two important factors. The first is that investment trust returns are shown on mid-market to midmarket basis (with net income reinvested) and do not reflect the full bid-offer spread or brokers' commission. The unit



trust figures (offer-to-bid with net income reinvested) take all

charges into account. The second factor is that the share price performance of many investment trusts will have benefited from a narrowing of the discount over the five-year period. With some trusts now standing at a premium to net assets, this factor is unlikely to recur - and may well work against investment

trusts over the next five years. if the discount starts to widen. Of course, averages are all very well. The actual returns from investing in a unit or

investment trust varied very widely from a gain of 306.5 per cent (from investing in the best unit trust - F&C US Smaller Companies) to a loss of 98.5 per cent (from the worst investment trust - Gresham House). Unit trust sector averages

are shown as the easiest way of indicating fixed interest returns - and reveal that, because of the pound's decline, the biggest profits were

achieved overseas. Finally, a word about single premium bonds. The average managed fund lagged behind the average unit trust; even though the bonds are measured on an offer-to-offer basis, giving them an advantage.

Although past performance is useful information, the chances are high, of course, that the comparative returns over the next five years will be completely different. Figures were taken from Micropol and Finstat, except for the indices (from Datastream) or the building society and National Savings figures (pro-

vided by institutions con

Five year performance US market (Dow-Jones Industrial in £ terms) Average triendly society unit-linked policy 69.0% 66.9% Average managed pension fund . FT-SE 100 index 66.2% 65.9% Average investment trust Index-linked National Savings 63.0% FT-A All-Share 55.6% 54.8% C&G Gold Account/London (£10,000 deposit) Average unit trust .. Fixed Interest National Savings Average managed unit-linked bond . C&G Gold (£1,000 deposit) 49.3% 41.9% Average UK gilt unit trust Tokyo market (Nikkei-225 in € terms)

Don't panic on executive pensions

OME life companies "For You: A New Sales Opporthink they have found tunity." a new way to sell executive pension plans. The Inland Revenue has

announced that the rules governing contributions to EPPs - available only to company directors and high-ranking executives - may be too generous. It is considering tighten-

Several companies have used this as an excuse to push executives and companies towards taking out the schemes. They are acting prematurely. The Inland Revenue this week made it clear that no decisions had been reached; it is not yet clear that any change will be made. There is certainly no

. -

timescale. The Association of British Insurers (ABI), which is in confidential talks with the Revenue on behalf of the pensions industry, has taken a similar attitude. A spokesman said: "It is quite clear that nothing has been decided. If anyone is putting about that things have been decided, then that's wrong." Neither side denies that discussions are taking place, prompted by the Revenue's desire to tighten the

The Revenue has been stirred into action by the high benefits that executives are able to earn: pension contributions can be set as a level amount rather than a propor-tion of current salary, allowing young executives to put away huge proportions of their income. This was allowed because it was assumed executive salaries would rise significantly before retirement.

Under the current rules, a 30-year old starting an executive scheme can make contributions equal to 110 per cent of salary. This could be cut to 35 per cent. Individuals can also walk away from the schemes, taking their entire fund value with them. If they retire early or if the scheme is wound up, directors can take excessive benefits in retirement.

So the Revenue's disquiet is understandable. If, as seems likely, the regulations are tightened, it could pay direc-tors and companies to set up schemes with high contributions sooner rather than later. It is still unclear, however, what the new regulations would be. They could even be

retrospective, making action now pointless. Regrettably, this has not prevented some life offices from using the change as a chance to sell. For example, advisers Chamberlain De Broe received a mailshot from NPI headed:

It goes on: "As you know, the Inland Revenue is soon to impose dramatic new changes which will affect the method of funding for Executive Pension Plans and possibly Small Self-Administered Schemes

Mark Bolland, of Chamberlain De Broe, said: "We are getting tired of watching the industry deservedly earning its poor reputation by pushing something which a) might not be appropriate and b) might anyway be vitiated by the Revenue rules."

In a gloomy economic climate. committing yourself at the age of 30 to regular payments of more than you are earning could be dangerous. Companies are also advocating that people start regular premium contracts to establish an arrangement before the Inland Revenue can change the rules.

However, an inflexible con-tract that calls for regular premiums, at a rate which is in excess of your current salary could soon impose an unwieldy strain. And Bolland notes that it is needlessly expensive. For a man earning £35,000, the maximum contribution could be £50,000, he says, generating a commission, if on a regular premium basis, of about

£26,000 in the first year. Insurance companies could charge for a regular contract on a single premium, rather than a regular premium, basis. This would work out much cheaper for the investor.

Bolland admits that the schemes can be very tax-efficient, but only at the expense of flexibility. He says: "There are, no doubt, many companies that set up this type of scheme on high contributions in good times, before the recession, and have since found that cash flow has prohibited those levels of payments from being maintained. The bottom line is a profoundly detrimental pen-

alty system." Making contributions on a single premium basis, for younger directors, or, for those nearing retirement, a regular premium contract on a single premium basis, are sensible actions for those worried about the change in the pipeline.

If any brokers or salesmen try a more robust approach, remember that the Revenue is still not committed to doing anything at all, and that the ABI has said no decisions have been made and rebuked members for using the moves as a

John Authers

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The pros and cons of Pibs issues

Scheherazade Daneshkhu looks at a device used by building societies to raise capital

society.

OWER base rates have caused many investors to see the attractions of permanent interest bearing shares. Pibs are relatively new. The first issue was launched in July 1991 by Leeds Permanent building society.

Pibs are not like ordinary shares which give investors a chunk of a company's assets. They are instead a way for building societies to raise capi-tal and they form part of the loan structure of the society.

They are better compared with gilts than shares, but instead of being issued by the government, they are issued by building societies. Like gilts, they pay a fixed income and pay interest twice a year net of basic rate tax. They are also exempt from capital gains tax.

Most gilts have a date on which the capital is repaid. But Pibs are irredeemable, which means there is no repayment date. Investors can get their capital back only by selling in the stock market and, like all stock market investments, the price will fluctuate.

It is also worth bearing in mind that they are deeply subordinated. This means that if the building society were to collapse, investors with Pibs would be behind all other lenders, depositors and shareholders for repayment. In addition, there is no compensation scheme to protect investors.

self-contained and small, Paul Killik of London-based brokers, Killik & Co, warns that, "failure by one building society in the Pibs market could do enor-

mous damage to the others". Moreover the building society is under no obligation to maintain interest payments. Nor does it have to pay skipped interest payments at a later

"People think that because Pibs are issued by building societies, they cannot lose money This is patently wrong," said David Nugent of Pilling & Co. Manchester-based stockbrokers.

However, so long as investors understand that what they

Bradford & Bingley

Bradford & Bingley

Cheltenham & Gloucs

Bristol & West

Bristol & West

Britannia (1st)

Britannia (2nd)

Leeds Permanent

North of England

Coventry.

Newcastie

Skipton

Yields on permanent interest bearing shares

(gross, %)

11.63 13.38

13.00

12.13

12.00

13.38 12.63

Since the Pibs market is are buying is similar to an irredeemable preference share rather than a fixed interest building society bond, Pibs can be useful.

Their main attraction lies in the fixed yields which are substantially higher than current variable rates of interest. The table shows yields and prices of Pibs at mid-day Thursday.

The after-tax income that an investor receives is in the range of 8 to 9 per cent, compared with variable rates of about 4.5 per cent net in an instant access building society account. Non-taxpayers can reclaim the tax owed to them.

As with government stocks, the yields and prices of Pibs have an inverse relationship to

10,000

1,000

1,000 1,000

50,000

50,000

1,000 1,000

1,000

each other. As prices rise, the yield falls and vice versa. But once the Pibs are bought, the yleld to the investor will remain fixed forever, unless disaster befalls the building

The table shows that prices of Pibs have been rising since they were issued, so people wishing to buy now get a lower, but still high, yield Some of the issues were aimed at the institutional market and will be beyond the reach of most investors. But the minimum investment in many others, such as those launched by Britannia and Bristol & West,

So, who should buy Pibs? Johnson Fry, which runs a

113.00

110.75

Yield' Price' (pence) (gross, %) 108.50 109.25 109.25 11.35 11.35 114.50 114.50 107.50 10.39 115.50 10.94 124,50

11.17

11.87

The minimum investment is portfolio currently pays an income of about 8.3 per cent

portfolio investing in 10 Pibs, says that "A lot of elderly people, who do not care too much about their capital, buy them to fix their income." Killik believes that they have a place in a fixed interest portfolio, but not on their own. He suggests combining them with gilts and other preference securities.

There are several ways of buying Pibs. One is to purchase them through a stockbroker. Pilling, for example, charges 1 per cent commission on the first £10,000 and 0.5 per cent thereafter, while charges at Killik are 1.2 per cent on the first £10,000 and 0.4 per cent

after that. Pilling's Nugent believes that Pibs are attractive at the moment, but their price could fall from September or October if inflation rises. Fixed interest investments become less attractive when inflation is on

the way up. London-based broker, Dunbar Boyle & Kingsley has put together five Pibs - Bristol & West, Coventry, Leeds & Holbeck, Newcastle and North of England - with a National Westminster irredeemable preference share, to produce income which is paid out 12 times a year.

£14,000. There is an initial charge of 2 per cent but no annual management fee. The The Week Ahead

A FALL in interim profits is expected when WH Smith, the retail and distribution group announces figures to the end of November on Wednesday. Losses in Do It All, its do-it-yourself joint venture with Boots, will drag profits lower, from £50.1m to about £45m pre-tax, say analysts,

including the pension credit

Smith enjoys.

The January sales are critical for MFI Furniture Group, the kitchen and bedroom retailer which floated last summer and which reports for the first time in its new form on Thursday. Although last year's January sales were strong, bro-kers think MFI could have beaten the numbers this year. As for the interim figures, to November 7, brokers are in the dark without comparable figures. Estimates are for a fall in

making up the balance. The idea is that Pibs provide the high yield while zeros (which do not pay income) provide capital growth for the fund. The yield for investors is therefore much lower than on Pibs held as a single investment; it is currently 4.7 per cent net. The minimum investment is £750 and there is an initial 5.25 per cent charge with an annual management fee of I per cent.

Johnson Fry's Pibs portfolio

is based on a similar concept.

It packages 10 Pihs to produce

quarterly income. The initial

fee is 4 per cent but there are

no other charges until the fifth

year, when there is a quarterly administration fee of £20 plus

VAT. The minimum invest-ment is £20,000 and the portfo-

lio is currently paying net

Those who like the idea of

Pibs but are worried about

risks to their capital may be interested in a fund launched

last November by Exeter Fund

Managers. Exeter Balanced has

a weighting of about 70 per

cent in Pibs, with investment

trust zero dividend shares

interest of about 8 per cent.

Since the Pibs form part of a unit trust, investors are protected by the Investors Com pensation Scheme. The fund is however, liable for capital gains tax, but losses are allow-able for CGT purposes.

operating profits from £24.2m to around £18m to £20m. Misys, the acquisitive com-

puting services group led by a former Hanson executive, Kevin Lomax, is due to report its interim results on Thursday. Pre-tax profits are expected to increase to around \$6.3m from £3.59m a year earlier. The group has made a spectacular recovery since its disastrous 1990/1 financial year when its shares bottomed at 63p. They

now stand at 375p. Unitech, the international electronics group, is still bearing the scars of the slowdown in the Japanese economy. The company, which ranks as the world's largest manufacturer of power supplies for electronic equipment, is likely to report a decline in first haif pre-tax profits to £4.1m from £7.8m in the comparable period.

T/	AKE-OVEF	BIDS	AND !	MERG	ERS
	Value of		Price	Value	
Company	bid per	Market	before	of bid	
bid for	share**	price**	bid	tins"	Bidder
Pri	ces in penc	e unless	otherw	ise indi	icated
Evode	129	128		93.84	Laporte
Do. Prf.	112	11112	101		Laporte
Hunter Saphir	42*	43	36t	10.37	"Albert Flaher
Owners Abroad	113	115	109	168.37	Airtours
Do. Cnv. Prl.	103	205	179	53.6	Airtours

i	PRELI	RELIMINARY RESULTS							
Company	Year to	Pre-ta:	x profit 190)	per sh	ings" are (p)		lenda. Jare (p		
Aberdeen Tat	Sept	1,760	(1,230)		(1.45)		(2.0)		
Central Motor Auction	Oct	850	(2,050)		(11.7)	4.0	(4.0)		
Devenport Vernon	Sept	1,640	(1,430)	8.1	(7.3)		[4.0		
Dawson Hakings	Sept	3,000	(1,870)	55.0	(29.4)	24.0	/22.0		
Dumas Group	Jan	970 L	(34)	-	(0.34)	-	(-)		
Eurocamp	Oct	9,400	(8, 160)	24.2	(21.1)	9.75	(5.5)		
Eurothean Int'l	Oct	14,600	(7,150)		(10.6)	8.0	(7.2)		
First Philippine	Oct	176	(421)	0.24	(0.53)	0.2	(0.95)		
FNFC	Oct	31,800 L	(33,700 L)	-	(-)	-	(-)		
Hawtin	Sept	1,040	(1,400)	1.04	(1.71)	0 69	(0.85)		
HIII & Smith	Sept	3,250	(4,640)	7.85	(11.2)	6.0	(6.0)		
Kunick	Sept	12,500 L	(8,600)	•	(0.38)		(14)		
Lee (Arthur)	Sept	2,980	(861)	7.32	(5.52)	5.9	(5.9)		
London & Clydeside	Sept	404	(1,820)	29	(14.9)	4.5	(7.0)		
London Scottish Bank	Oct	3,850	(3,110)	5.0	(4.7)	30	(2.75)		
LPA Industries	Sept	477	(476)		(3.69)	3.52	(3.52)		
PWS Holdings	Sept	2.210	(2,860)	6.7	(9 2)	4.0	(4.0)		
RCO Holdings	Sept	4,720	(4,390)	29.2	(27.1)	13.9	(12.6)		
Ryan Hulels	Oct2	186 L	(975)	-	(1 11)	-	(0.5)		
Soundhace	Nov	350	(546)	2.45	(3.79)	2.2	(2.2)		
St David's Inv Tst	Nov	1,380	(595)	19.3	(14.5)	3.0#	13 0#)		
TS8 Bank Scotland	Oct	79,400	(76,900)	-	(-1	-	Į-1		

DOC LINESIAS	Sehr	4,120	(~,000)		12		,,
Ryan Hotels	Oct2	186 L	(975)	-	(1 11)		(0.5)
Soundhace	Nov	350	(546)	2.45	(3.79)	2.2	(2.2)
St David's Inv Tst	Ngy 👄	1,380	(595)	19.3	(14.5)		
TSB Bank Scotland	Oct	79,400	(76,900)	-	(-1		(-)
Yorkshina-Tyne Tees	Sept	16,120	(13,090)	27.1	(22.9)	12.0	(120)
	INTER	IM ST	ATEME	NTS			
	н	all-year		z profil		inter divide	nds"
Company		to	(20	200)	P	er sha	re (p)
Abtrust Scotland	Nov		91		(60t)	-	(-)
Aerospace Eng	Oct		109		(27)	0.25	(0.5)
AIM Group.	Oct		1,480	(1	1,050)	1.5	(1.5)
Barlo Group	Sep	陸	390		(319)	-	(-)
Beales Hunter	Nov		1,360		1,200)	2.45	(2.3)
British Bloodstock	Sep	t	311 L	{4	12 L)	-	{-}
British Thornton	Oct		301		(20)	0.25	(-)
Chartwell Group	Sep		137 L		(41)		(-)
Clark (Matthew)	Oct		2,420		2,200)	6.75	(6.5)
Claybithe	Sep	it	1,100 L	(6	45 L)	0.75	(0.75)
Coletax & Fowler	Oct		192 L		(505)	05	(1.3)
Colorvision	Sep	ıt	153		45 L)	2.5	(3.1)
Daejan Holdings	Sep	it	8,210		3,770)	12.0	(12.0)
Electron House	Nov		854		(595)	1.05	(1.0)
Exmoor Dual Inv Tst	Nov		22155		22§§)	25	(2.5)
Expedier	Jun		573 L	(1.4	20 L)	-	(-)
Investment Co	Sep	Ł	535		(592)	0.5	(0.37)
Jupiter European	Oct		108		(76)	0.5	(-)
OMI MY	Sep	Ł	88 L	(1,	340L)	0 75	(0.75)

88 L 1,770 10,500 528t 289 258 3,250 1,200 287 55 39 (1,640) (6,700) (5861) (251) (507) (2,920) (963) (178) (240 L) [Figures in parentheses are for the corresponding period.] "Dividends are shown net pence per share, except where otherwise indicated. L = loss, \$ = Figures quoted in Irieh pounds \$ pence. † = Net revenue. # = First quarterly dividend. © = This years figures for 16 months. §\$ = First quarter figures.

1.2 1.5

RIGHTS ISSUES PNFC is to raise £45.8m via a 2-for-7 rights offening. SelecTV is to raise £4.25m via a one-for-four rights issue at 17p. Star Computer plans to raise £4.1m via a 3-for-2 rights issue.

OFFERS FOR SALE, PLACINGS & INTRODUCTIONS

Dumen Group is to raise up to 12m via a share placing.
Expedier is to raise \$4.5m via a share placing.
Shoprite is to raise £9.8m via a placing and a 1-for-9 open offer.
Ster Computer plans to raise £9.8m via a placing of 24.45m new shares at 40p.
Triplex Lloyd has raised \$35m via a private placing on the US capital market.

RESULTS DUE

		5	Hvidend (p)*
Company	nnouncement	Last	year	This year
	dut	int	Final	lot.
FINAL DIVIDENDS				
Aliled Textile Companies	Wednesday	4.4	7.9	4.5
Cerdif Property	Thursday	0.85	1.55	0.85
City & Commercial lay	Wednesday			4.00
Derby Trust	Thursday	-	-	_
Domino Printing Sciences	Tuesday	2.1	4.15	2.4
Greenfriar kyestment Co.	Friday	0.5	0.75	0.35
Heritage	Friday Tuesday	210	4.00	2.10
Lookers	Monday	20		
Partridge Fine Arts	Thursday	10	4.2	2.0
Principale Genus	Monday		1.25	1.0
RICHMOND ON & Gas	Wednesday	-		
Shandwick	Tuesday	1,18	1.18	
Securiquard Group	Wednesday	3.2	5.3	3.5
St. Andrew Trust	Monday	2.7	4.85	2.7
ISTRIBION Emeralna Libia	Thursday	0.45	0.45	-
Warner Estate Holdings	Monday Thursday	•	1.8	=
Witan Investment Co	Thursday	3.50 2.70	6.75	3.25
OCTERNA OCVIDANOS	indi sqay	2.70	2.80	2,50
Brandon Hire	Friday	0.1	_	
Bucgens	Tuesday	4		
Centors	Tuesday	1.0	3.0	
Dale Electric	Tuesday	2.0	3.1	-
Davice (DY)	Wednosday		•	-
Ensor Holdings	Wednesday Friday	5.0	30	-
Elionbrook Properties	Friday	-		-
Farenek	Thursday	3.55	2.75	-
GOOGREAD Grown	Friday	0.50	1.45	-
G. I Jacon Investment True	Monday	0.4	0.75	-
HODO Kona bis Tel	Monday	U. -	1.0	-
HICEDONOSIII INV CA	Thursday	-	0.5	
Investors Capital Tet	Friday	-	1.275	1.275
Jurys Hotel Group	Thursday	•		
Kleinwort High Income Trust Korea Asia Fund	Thursday	1.875	1.875	_
Uster & Co	Thursday	-		-
Markheath	Tuesday	_ :	0.1	-
McKay Securities	Friday Foday	0.5		-
WF		3.2	3.5	- .
Misys	Thursday		-	-
MUITEY Smaller Marketo Tarre	Thursday	2.27	3.83	-
Migtay Solft Canital Trust	Tuesday Wednesday	1.25	275	-
PTISM Leisure Core	Thursday			-
Property 1st	Thursday	1.5	3.95	-
PTOGELS [7]	Thursday	-	•	-
Regian Property Tst	Friday	•	-	-
Heleck SpcD	Tuesday	1.06		-
Sendo (A. H)	Wenesday	1.05 4.3	21	-
Unirech	Thursday	3.75	9.1	-
Wholesale Fittings	Friday	3.73	210	-
Middus Groop	Friday	0.40	8.47	-
Wood (John D)	Torana			

"Dividends are shown net pence per share and are adjusted for any intervening scrip issue. \$\frac{\pi}{2}\$ = 1st quarter figures. Reports and accounts are not normally available until about 6 weeks after the board meeting to approve proliminary results. fall 1.7 per cent to £56,409.

Tuesday

Guaranteed products start to multip

Issue date Issue price

101.79

100.33

107.13 100.96

100.28

100.00

100 23

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28/5/92

3/6/91

8/9/92

31/3/92

23/6/92

31/10/91

S FINANCIAL companies try to persuade cautious investors to leave their traditional safe haven in the building society, guaranteed products are evolving at breakneck speed.

The latest version from Citibank Life is a complex product which aims to counter some of the flaws in other guaranteed products - inflexibility and the lack of an income facility.

The "Stockmarket Bonus Bond" has strong similarities to Hypo Foreign & Colonial's Protected Capital Plus, which was launched last summer.

The guarantee occurs on a quarterly basis. If the FT-SE 100 Index rises over three months, investors receive part of the gain; if the index falls, their capital remains intact. Once a gain is locked in, it cannot be lost. The cumulative effect of these guarantees is to reduce the impact of stock market volatility sharply.

But the investor does not receive all the rise of the Footsie, nor the yield on shares in the index. The proportion of Footsie's gain will vary from quarter to quarter; Citibank indicates a range of 45 per cent to 94 per cent. For the forthcoming quarter, the proportion will be a net 52.5 per cent (60 per cent for pension products).

To add to the complications, one must then take account of the charges (which are 5 per cent initial and 1 per

cent annual) and the bonus allocations. Investors will receive extra allocations for investing early (2.2 per cent before February 10, falling to 0.5 per cent before March 24), or for investing more than £10,000.

So it is rather difficult to estimate exactly how well an investor will do. Citibank has found that over the past five years, an investment of £30,000 would have grown into £47,492 net of all charges and tax - but smaller investments will not have done as

well because of lower allocation rates. All returns are paid net of tax which cannot be reclaimed, but basic rate taxpayers will face no further charge. Higher rate taxpayers will

face a further liability, but can take advantage of top slicing relief, which allows the investor to divide the gain made on the bond by the number of years it has been held.

The income facility allows investors to make regular withdrawals, for a minimum of £50, or irregular withdrawals, with a minimum of £250. If the market does not rise in a particular quarter, these withdrawals will cause the investor's capital to drop.

The product is technically an insurance bond, so investors can withdraw 5 per cent of their capital a year with no immediate tax liability (there may be a tax charge on final encashment).

Flexibility is an important aspect of

the bond: the product rolls on indefinitely, and the investor can withdraw money at any time, although it is a

Investors could be forgiven for being bemused by the product's complexity. It is hard to predict how it will work in practice. It seems, likely, however, that a top-rate taxpayer would still be better off buying a lowcharging index fund, such as Gartmore's; this carries no guarantee but there is little point in buying any equity-based product unless you think the market will rise.

Philip Coggan

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Casebook

A battle with the taxman

HE INLAND Revenue, which is spending £2m on an advertising campaign to encourage 10m people to reclaim £800m in overpaid tax, says the main reason for the lack of claims is apathy. How-ever, a Weekend FT reader has

a different explanation. "It is not that people do not bother to reclaim tax overpaid, but unless my own tax office is an exception to the norm, most people give up in despair," says Robert Anderson, of Sher-iff Hutton, in Yorkshire.

Anderson was 65 years old in 1991. As his total income was below £13,500, he was entitled to the maximum age allowance. He could therefore claim for a refund of tax for the year ending April 1992, and for a smaller refund for 1991.

He completed a tax return and details of the amount he thought he had overpaid for 1990-91 in January 1992. "From then until the end of July, I had continually to telephone and write to get some action," he says. "During this time, I dealt with no fewer than eight different people in the same section, each one of whom totally ignored any previous correspondence and started again from scratch, and it was only when I finally demanded

to speak to the section head that I obtained any sense." He was told that his case could not be handled by one person because of holidays. part-time workers and sickness absences. "During all this time I must

say I was treated with courtesy, and each letter came with a profuse apology, for the last mistake on their part; however it soon became obvious to me that the ordinary tax officer in most cases didn't even know which form I should complete," says Anderson.

This year, Anderson has worked out that he is due for a rebate of about £150 but, "I had decided that it was not worth the stress trying to obtain it." However, he has just received a coding notice fo 1993-94, which allocated only the basic allowance to him ignoring his married status

and age allowance. "I am resolved to do battle again," he says. "The point am trying to make is, that the £2m the government is to spend on advertising would be better spent in trying to edu cate the tax officers and improve the system."

Scheherazada Daneshkhu

More bonus cuts

▼ WO MORE life offices But they have cut bonuses in different ways.

Following Norwich Union, many companies have opted to cut reversionary bonuses, which are declared annually and cannot be taken away from the value of the policy if it runs to maturity. This is to investment returns and to annual bonuses relieve pressure on reserves.

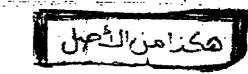
ping significantly. Royal Life the same assumptions, fall by has opted to cut its reversionary bonus by 0.5 percentage points to 3.25 per cent. Its terminal bonus, added only at the end of the policy to reflect

have announced been left broadly unchanged reduced with-profits Ten-year pay-outs have pay-outs for 1993. dropped by 8.9 per cent, while y have cut bonuses in 25-year maturities, assuming the policy was taken out by 29-year-old man paying £30 per month, rose 1.1 per cent to 255,632,

Scottish Provident main tained its reversionary bonus on conventional business, but growth rates for unitised with reflect lower anticipated profits life and pensions funds dropped from 9.25 per cent to strengthen reserves. Lower 8.5 per cent, and from 11.0 per cent to 10.0 per cent respec tively. Terminal bonuses have Pay-outs at the end of 10- also been reduced. Ten-year year policies have been drop- endowment pay-outs, using £6,844, while 25-year pay-outs

John Authers





How the wealthy take money from the state

take advantage of different prices in different markets, is one of the oldest games played by financial wheeler-dealers.

Now, the UK's Inland Revenue is falling victim to the same trick. The Business Expansion Scheme, introduced as a tax incentive to encourage the wealthy to risk investing in small enterprises, has become a device to help banks and toprate taxpayers to take slices of the state's money. In the process, it has also

converted a significant part of the UK's damaging stock of repossessed housing into private rented accommodation. This is good news for the homeless and for homeowners in houses where values are dropping. But whether the gov-ernment intended the windfall for top-rate taxpayers to be so generous is another matter.

When the arbitrage scheme is finely tuned, it works as fol-lows: an institutional lender (usually a bank) finds itself with a large stock of repossessed housing: dumping it on

to the market at current values

would increase its loss. Instead, the bank sets up a BES company which takes control of the property. That company must then rent out the property under "assured tenancy" regulations for five years to qualify for BES reliefs. The bank covenants to buy back the property at the end of five years, at a price only

the BES shares themselves offer the only security which the banks can use.

So investors can leave the investment, for a profit, after only six months. Meanwhile, the banks have received £1 and paid out only 72p for it. Both sides have thus profited handsomely from the relief. Non-recourse schemes were

John Authers asks if a device to help banks take slices of the state's money is supposed to be so generous

slightly in excess of that paid. Meanwhile, investors buy shares in the BES at £1 a time. Thanks to BES tax relief, they receive 40p in tax relief, if they

pay top-rate tax, so they have effectively only invested 60p. Six months later, the bank offers a loan against the BES shares of 72p for every £1 share. That represents a substantial mark-up over six months for someone who has only parted with 60p. The loan

first introduced in September last year and have proved popular. Banks involved included Barclays, TSB, and Bank of The Inland Revenue, mean

while, is allowing both banks and wealthy investors to make some very easy money. Basic rate taxpayers, who effectively invest 75p per £1, cannot benefit from this trick.

For those not prepared to lock their money away for a

non-recourse schemes are undeniable. Most schemes launched so far have been oversubscribed within a week, and many investors have put money into the BES for the

But this creates dangers. Bank-guaranteed non-recourse loan schemes genuinely have a low level of risk. But many other schemes launched in the next 12 months will not be so watertight. Others will be highly speculative. Some schemes, mainly

involving universities, offer a "guaranteed" return after five years. These returns will usually be greater than those on offer after five years in schemes which offer a sixmonth loan, so they might be preferable if the five-year term is not a problem. In many cases, these schemes are guaranteed only by the universities themselves, so the credit risk is greater than for a bankbacked scheme.

"entrepreneurial" schemes make no guarantee, and simply aim to profit as much as possible from any

They have unlimited potential growth, but no safeguard against a continued decline. Schemes launched this week demonstrate the differences: Flexit, sponsored by Richard Ellis Venture Consultants, has exit arrangements backed by the Royal Bank of Scotland. The loan available after six

months is high, at 74p for

every £1, but the return after

purchase new homes for Fairclough Homes, a subsidiary of AMEC, and is not involved in

The Ridings Companies, sponsored by Capital for Companies, will buy new houses from the developers Tay Homes and Persimmon. A non-recourse six-month loan of only 71p per £1 has been underwritten by the Bank of Scotland, but 105p

per share has been guaranteed at the end of five years. Pathfinder Repossessions II, backed by Johnson Fry, is returning to the market. As its name implies it will buy repossessed property, in London. However, it offers no guaran-tees. The aim is to make as much money as possible, but this would be vulnerable to a

sponsored by Johnson Fry, is a hybrid. It is offering loans at the rate of 60p per £1 invested after six months. These loans are not repayable until the end of the five-year BES period, but they are on a full recourse basis - if the property market does not recover, you will have to pay more at the end of five years. If it does, you could



Directors' transactions

THE sharp increase in than last year and the chairboardroom activity this week has been dominated by directors' sales. With the FT-SE 100 Index pausing for breath, directors have taken advantage of share prices often standing at record levels.

Faber Prest's mixture of specialist services has proved an effective defensive combination. The share price, refecting the improving profit figures, has risen from 130p in May 1991 to the current level of 380p. Chairman Richard Prest has sold 155,000 shares at 377p. He remains the largest shareholder on the board.

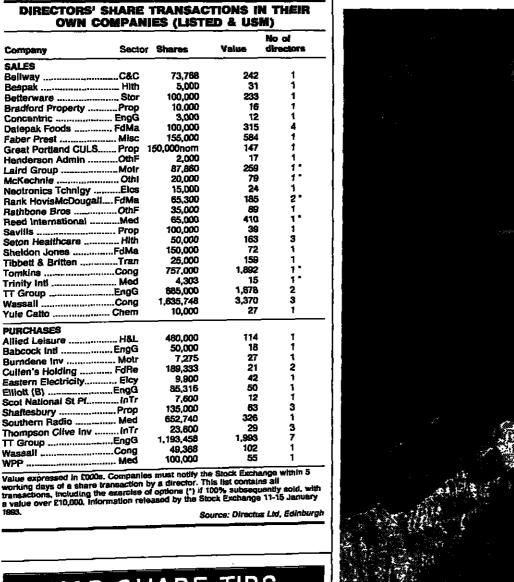
Dalepak Foods had a mixed year so far as share price performance is concerned. Interim profits were marginally lower

man's statement suggested thefinal year outcome would be broadly similar. The interim announcement was accompanied by details of sales by four directors, including Christopher Ivory, chief executive. In total, they sold 100,000 shares at 315p, but each of the directors is left with a residual holding greater than 100,000 shares.

Property shares have enjoyed a good run since Black Wednesday but Peter Levy. chairman of Shaftesbury, has not been deterred; he bought 105,000 shares at 47p. At the same time Neil Benson, a nonexecutive director bought 20,000 shares, also at 47p.

Angus MacDonald. Directus Ltd

The continuing asceni





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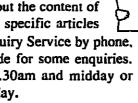
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Philip Coggan considers Lowland Investment Company

HERE IS a distinct family air about the Lowland Investment Company, which is managed by the Henderson

Administration group.

The trust derived its name from the Henderson family's origins in the lowlands of Scotland. Its largest investment is in the Henderson management group (4.8 per cent of the portfolio as of September 30); and Lowland's largest shareholder (with a 23 per cent stake) is Witan, another Henderson-

managed trust. The current manager of the trust is James Henderson, a member of the founding family, and eldest son of Lord Faringdon, chairman of Witan Investment Trust. Henderson, 31, who studied economics at Pembroke college, Cambridge, took over the trust management in mid-1990.

Lowland was founded in 1963 as a means of giving younger fund managers within the Henderson group a trust to look after. Raymond Cazalet, the current chairman, was the first manager to take the helm.

These familial links have brought success. Lowland produced the third best share price performance of all investment trusts over the last ten years, with a rise of 735 per cent*. Share price performance figures can be distorted by the effect of discounts but the trust is also top of its sector (UK income growth) in terms of net asset value growth over the same period.

The objective of the trust is to produce an above-average dividend, which increases over time. James Henderson says his investment approach is to look for companies which can produce income growth, rather than opting for the ultra high yielders. He searches for companies with undervalued assets and earnings and ends up with some of the duller stocks that have not been in the headlines.

Compared with TR City of London (profiled last week) the trust has a much greater concentration on the medium and smaller companies sectors. Only 40 per cent of Lowland's portfolio is in FT-SE 100 Index stocks, while 30 per cent is in medium-sized companies and

30 per cent in smaller. This concentration, says Henderson, has played a crucial part in the trust's success over the last decade. "We've had exposure to the medium and smaller companies without being completely committed to them" he says.

The trust's ten largest stakes are: Henderson, British Gas, British Airways, National Power, Prudential, Boots, GKN. Thames Water, Morgan Crucible and AAH. In terms of sectors, the trust currently has a heavy weighting in capital goods (29 per cent versus the All-Share weighting of 13 per cent). The rest of the portfolio split 20 per cent consumer, 19 per cent financial and 32 per cent other groups.

Although the trust is in the UK income sector, around 9 per cent of the portfolio is in Europe; but since getting income would be a problem if the portfolio had too heavy an overseas exposure, the trust is unlikely to put more than 25 per cent overse

The trust's short term performance has been slightly less impressive than its 10 year record; as the graphs show, net asset value fell sharply in 1988 and 1990. Lowland has produced a slightly below average performance for its sector over Lowland Share price relative to the FT-A All-Share Index 90 91 92 Net asset value per ordinary share (p) Dividend per ordinary share (p)

three and five years. Currently the fund is taking rather aggressive approach. It has a 15 per cent gearing level, having borrowed £6m of debentures and bank facilities of £4m (when a trust gears up, it hopes that equity returns will more than make up for the cost of borrowing money). "This is the highest gearing we've had for a bit", says Hen-

derson, "over the last year, we became increasingly confident

that we could find value in the

Analyst Hamish Buchan of County NatWest says Lowland is a much smaller trust than TR City and the shares are tightly held, with around 70 per cent of the equity in Henderson or Cazenove-related hands. This restricts liquidity, says Buchan but this is not too much of a problem for private

Buchan says Lowland is "a

sound and solid security for the individual", although he adds that the trust has been trading at a small premium to its asset value.

Normally when investment

trust shares go to a premium, investors start to look for alternative funds which are at a discount. However, Lowland's portfolio may benefit if the much awaited smaller company revival finally occurs. ■ Key facts. The trust has net assets and a market capitalisation of around £54m, as of January 21. The net asset value was 230.7p, almost equal to the share price of 231p. The divi-

dend yield is 4.9 per cent. The annual management charge is 0.4 per cent. ■ Board. The board includes one Henderson employee, Richard Smith, who was the manager of the trust until 1990, and is still the managing director. The chairman is the first manager Raymond Cazalet, a former chairman of the Association of Investment Trust

Companies: other directors are John Morrell, who is also a director of Law Debenture; John Kemp-Welch, a Cazenove partner, and Peter Troughton, a director of W H Smith. ■ Savings scheme and Pep

details. The minimum monthly investment for both the savings scheme and the personal equity plan is £100, with £2,000 for lump sums. There is a 1 per cent fee on both purchases and sales and an annual fee of £20. *According to figures from the Association of Investment

Trust Companies.

The myth of 90-day accounts

Scheherazade Daneshkhu on building society rates

IGH RETURNS and convenience are usually the two most sought after

Depositors are required to follow a few simple principles to obtain the higher returns the larger the amount of money deposited and the longer the capital is left untouched, the greater the

Ninety-day accounts operate on this principle. The building society finds it cheaper to administer accounts which do not have a large number of transactions. In theory, they are able to pass this saving on to the depositor in the form of

The snag for many investors is that the higher returns come at the expense of reduced accessibility to their money. Unless 90-days notice is given, the saver suffers 90 days loss of

This is not a problem if money is not needed in a hurry, but three months can be a long time to plan ahead and foresee financial needs. And if a good return becomes available, for example, in the form of a competitive guaranteed product, it can be a big disadvantage to lorego the 90-days interest in order to be able to get funds out before the offer

But is it even true that 90day accounts pay the highest returns? The tables show the

		441 1		
Building society	Account	Minimum deposit (£)	Rate (۶۵)	
Scarborough	Scarb' Ninety 3	500	7.25	
Tipton & Coseley	Investment share	500	7.00	
Teachers	Minster 90	1,000	7.45	
Scarborough	Scarb' Ninety 3	1,000	7.25	
Teachers	Minster 90	5,000	7.45	
Scarborough	Scarb' Ninety 3	5,000	7.25	
Halifax	Premium Extra	10,000	7.75	
Alliance & Leic	Bonus 90	10,000	7.60	
Scarborough	Scarb' Ninety 3	25,000	8.50	
Alliance & Leic	Bonus 90	25,000	7.90	

Source: Moneyfacts. Bonus of 0.25 per cent if no withdrawals in a year. Bonus of 0.5 per cent if no withdrawals in a year

highest rates currently available on 90-day, postal and instant-access accounts, on amounts of £500, £1,000, £2,500 and £10,000.

A comparison of the rates on postal and 90-day accounts shows that 90-day accounts do not always pay the highest rates. Birmingham Midshires matches the 7.25 per cent gross rate paid by Scarborough's 90day account on £500. The best of the 90-day rates are higher on £1,000 than the postal accounts, but the postal accounts beat 90-day rates on amounts of £5,000, £10,000 and

£25,000. For example, the two highest 90-day rates on £10,000 are Halifax (7.75 per cent gross) and Alliance & Leicester (7.60 per cent gross). Both rates are beaten by postal account rates on not only the £10,000 tier but also on £5,000. Skipton and North of England are paying 8.35 per cent gross and 8.20 per cent gross on £5,000, while rates on £10,000 are 8.45 per cent gross at North of England and 8.3 per cent gross from

Northern Rock. As postal accounts are administered centrally, costs are lower than for accounts operated through a branch network. Low overheads and a smaller staff allow competitive rates to be passed on to the depositor.

The accounts are advertised as instant-access, meaning that given for withdrawals, but they are not instant in terms of

ready accessibility to the cash. With most postal accounts, it will normally take a week before you have the funds. If you send off a withdrawal request on a Monday, the earliest you could hope to receive a cheque is on Wednesday. It will then take at least three working days for the cheque to clear, so usually you will not be able to draw cash until the following Monday. However, it should be remembered that most instant access branch accounts also require notification for large withdrawals.

The tables show that rates on 90-day accounts are higher than those on instant-access branch accounts. The rates are 1.25 percentage points higher on all tiers, apart from £1,000. where the difference is fractionally higher at 1.45 points.

Those with 90-day deposits should check the rates they are being paid and consider moving over to postal accounts which will allow them higher rates and much faster access to

Highest postal rat			
Building society	Account	Minimum deposit (£)	Rate (%)
Birmingham M'shires Scarborough Norwich & Peterboro' Bradford & Bingley Sklpton North of Eng North of England Northern Rock Sklpton Northern Rock	First class First post Postmaster Direct Premlum Money Post Edinburgh Edinburgh Go Direct Money Post Go Direct	500 500 1,000 1,000 5,000 5,000 10,000 25,000 25,000	7.25 6.80 7.00 6.55 8.35 8.45 8.45 8.60

Highest Instant a			
Building society	Account	Minimum deposit (£)	Rate (%)
Portman City & Met Portman Teachers Teachers Portman National Counties Chelsea Manchester Birm M'shires Source: Moneylacts	Instant access City Gold Instant access Minster Spire Minster Spire Instant access Instant access Instant Option Super Access Quantum Instant	500 500 1,000 1,000 5,000 5,000 10,000 10,000 25,000	6.0 5.6 6.2 6.2 6.2 6.2 7.2 6.7

owances

THE TABLE shows capital gains tax (CGT) allowances for assets sold in December. To use it, multiply the original cost of the asset for the figure shown for the month in which

you bought it. If you subtract the result from the proceeds of your sale,

the result will be your taxable gain or loss. Suppose that you bought some shares for £8,000 in Sep-tember 1983 and sold them in December 1992 for £18,000. Multiplying the original cost by the September 1983 figure of 1.618 gives a total of £12,944.

Subtracting that from the proceeds of £18,000 gives a capital gain of £5,056, which is below the 1992-93 CGT allowance of 25,800. If you realised no other gains during the year, the profits should be tax-free.

If you sell shares bought before April 6 1982, you should use the March 1982 figure. The RPI in December was 139.2.

CG! IND	EXATION	ALLU	VARC	ES: D	ECEMB	er
Month	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	198
January	-	1.685	1.603	1.526	1,446	1.39
February	-	1.678	1.596	1.514	1.441	1.38
March	1.752	1.675	1.591	1.500	1.439	1.384
April	1.718	1.652	1.570	1.469	1.425	1.36
May	1.705	1.645	1.565	1.462	1.423	1.36
June	1.701	1.641	1.561	1.459	1.423	1.366
July	1.700	1.632	1.562	1.462	1.427	1.367
August	1.700	1.625	1.548	1.458	1,423	1.36:
September	1.701	1.618	1.545	1.459	1.416	1.359
October	1.692	1.612	1.535	1.456	1.414	1.353
November	1.684	1.606	1.531	1.451	1.402	1.346
December	1.687	1.602	1.532	1.449	1.397	1.348
Month	1988	1989	19	90	1991	1992
January	1.348	1.254	1,1	65	1.069	1.027
February	1.342	1,245	1.1	58	1.063	1.021
March	1.337	1.240	1.1	47	1.059	1.018
April	1.316	1.218	1.1		1.046	1.003
May	1.311	1.210	1.1		1.043	1.000
June	1.306	1,206	1.0		1.038	1.000
July	1.305	1.205	1.0		1.040	1.003
August	1.290	1.202	1.0		1.038	1.002
September	1.284	1.194			1.034	
October	1.271	1.185	1.0			1.000
November	1.285	1.175	1.0		1.030	1.000
December	1.262	1.173	1.0 1.0		1.027 1.026	1.000

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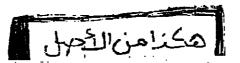
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FINANCE AND THE FAMILY

nly a niche position

choice, the "international balanced" unit trust sector offers more opportunities than any

A quick look at their specifications shows why. According to the Unit Trust Association, these funds "have less than 80 per cent of their portfolio invested in either equities or fixed interest securities".

Geographical areas are not mentioned. Fund managers, provided they keep a balance, can invest in virtually any security, anywhere in the world, which they believe will perform well. Such funds may be the unit trust world's answers to the stately galleons of the "international general" investment trusts, which have broadly spread international assets.

Managers face a different challenge from that in most other sectors. Usually their remit is tight. They must stay in, for example, UK smaller companies, even if they think these companies will underperform. Outperformance comes from superior stock selection.

In the international balanced sector, asset allocation, not stock selection, is the determining factor. Ideally, they will ride with the best-performing asset of the moment, switching when necessary, and avoiding sharp changes or speculative moves by retaining balance.

The only trust with a tenyear record, Gartmore Global Income & Growth, appears to have delivered this, with growth of 538.45 per cent over ten years according to Micropal (offer-to-bid, with income reinvested). The powerful UK equity market performance of the mid-1980s lies behind much of this, while more recently holdings in Far Eastern equity markets and in international bonds have kept the fund growing at a respectable, if more sedate rate

Its asset allocation at the beginning of the year included a wide mix, with 79 per cent in equities - 19 per cent in the UK, 10 per cent in continental Europe, 5 per cent in Japan, 27 per cent in the US and 18 per cent in the Far East and in emerging markets. There is a 4 per cent UK cash holding, and Gartmore also holds European,

Japanese and American bonds.
This reflects the "top-down" asset aliocation which the company also uses for its segregated pension funds. This dic-tates being overweight in emerging markets, the UK and

Whittingdale has built its reputation as a gilts manager, and does not wander far into the equity markets. However, the fund, occasionally, has held equities over the last few

Look to the third strongest performer, The Master Portfo-lio, managed by Capel-Cure Myers, and yet another world asset allocation view emerges. Capel-Cure has 52.5 per cent in UK equities, 15 per cent in Europe, 15 per cent in the US, and 17.5 per cent in cash and

bonds. This diversity means that investors looking for a trust must also adopt a different

John Authers says the international balanced unit trust sector has a place - but you need to know where

the US, and underweight in

Japan and Europe. Whittingdale Challenger, second over five years, could hardly present a greatest contrast. It holds no equities at all, and is split between cash and bonds. Roughly 70 per cent of the fund is in gilts (UK government bonds), and the managers are in the process of reducing exposure to the dollar and moving in to French francs and bonds. It went overweight in the dollar last year, enabling it to log 22.42 per cent growth

Best performing international balanced funds over five years

% growti Gartmore Global Income & Growth Whittingdale Challenger The Master Portfolio 79.02 72.54 55.53 45.13 approach. Most managers try to make these trusts the potential bedrock for a portfolio, which will handle clients' asset allocation for them.

For example, the Master Portfolio is intended to mirror the portfolio which would be established for an investor who came to an investment house with £1m to invest, according to Kenneth Levy of Capel-Cure Myers. Its minimum investment, of £50,000, is in line with this ambition. Similarly, Whittingdale

Best performing international balar funds over three years

43.4

36.97 30.22 29.37

Stewart Ivory Managed Equity Whittingdale Challenger Gartmore Global Income & Gith Martborough Managed Mercury Particlia 39.73 Average

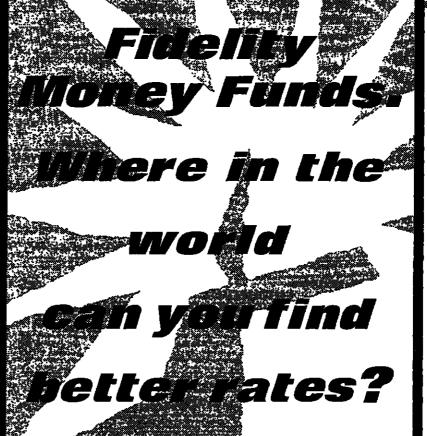
as a "benchmark" for other funds. So there might appear to be some sense in having a heavy international balanced holding, to be complemented by smaller holdings when they seem necessary. Interest has increased in recent years among managers, with 18 funds launched in the last five years, so there is now choice. But choosing a fund is difficult because they vary so widely. Anyone willing to do

some rudimentary asset allocation of their own - or with a portfolio manager prepared to do it - can switch into sector funds managed by companies with strong stock selection expertise in that area. Good asset allocators may not have access to the best stock-pickers.

International balanced funds work better than funds of funds (which have only managed 39.11 per cent growth over five years) at giving customers the best of all worlds, and Gartmore's 10-year figure shows their potential trengths in the long term.

But they look weak by comparison with the grand old ladies of the international general investment trust sector. Over the same five-year period when international halanced unit trusts rose 54.91 per cent, on average, Law Debenture managed 166.8 per cent, Bankers 164.46 per cent, Alliance 159.39 per cent, and Second Alliance 155.09 per cent. The average for the sector was 119.11 per cent.

The erosion of investment trust discounts will have exaggerated these figures, but they suggest the old dependables might provide a stronger foundation for a portfolio. The international balanced sector has a place, but only as an add-on to investment trusts.



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ITHOUT any approach Or warning whatsoever, my next door neighbour has informed me by letter that branches from my tree have caused damage to his garage roof and that he has had this repaired and cut my branches. He informed me that he would be sending me the bill for this work which he hoped I would pay promptly.

bility, saying that I had noticed for many years a tile missing from his garage roof, and that this had been caused by storm and I refused to pay. I also mentioned it would have been neighbourly for him to have spoken to me previously. Incidentally, the adjoining houses, including my accusing neighbour's, all have roof tiles

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45

missing now or have had replacements, because, I assume, of weather conditions.

My neighbour has now sent me an account for £55 showing replacement of approximately seven tiles, securing six tiles and cutting my branches. My gardener says the branches would not have lifted

off roof tiles or damaged them as they tend to grow away from the tiles. My neighbour also asks me to cut back property at another part of our common boundary. What is vour advice? ■ Your tree will have caused

both a trespass and a nuisance to the extent that branches have grown across the boundary with your neighbour. If your neighbour can prove that the damage of which he complains was caused by those

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nare. $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$ and $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$ and $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$ are fixed only until 1.4.93. $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$ and $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$ and $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$ are fixed only until 1.4.93. $p=150 \, \mathrm{m}$

branches, he is entitled to require you to pay for the repair. This is ultimately a question of fact. Your neighbour can require you to cut trespassing branches, and can cut them himself if he wishes: but he cannot charge you with

My aunt's estate

When my aunt died many years ago she left her estate in trust to pay the income to a friend for the remainder of her life and, on her death, equally between her nephews and nieces. The will did not include a non-apportionment

The life tenant died on June

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Postal Postal

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Rate Int. % paid

6.80% 8.35% 8.60% 7.25% 8.06%

9.25%□ 10.00☆

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2 1992 and the trust investments were sold soon after, including useful holdings in companies had then just paid their 1991 final dividends, which were properly paid to the life-tenant. However, the trust solicitors inform us that her estate is entitled to a proportion of the future dividends for the year to December 31 1992, although the finals will not be declared or paid until nearly a year after her death and will not actually be received because the holdings have been sold.

We are told strict apportionment must be applied and that we could have delayed the sales until after the dividends had been received, although this would have meant waiting a year for any benefit to be received and taking a chance on the state of the market 12 months hence. Is this right? ■ The trust's solicitors are correct. Section 2 of the Apportionment Act 1870 provides for apportionment on a daily basis of dividends.

Executor's entitlement

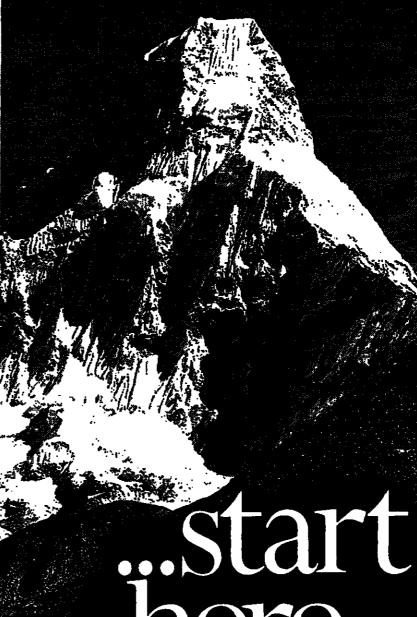
I am sole executor in a rela tion's will. I paid a lot of her bills out of my own resources some of these arising before I had power of attorney. I kept a record of these as I had been looking after her affairs for some two years. Clearly I wish to debit her estate with these before inheritance tax is levied as they fell due before her death. The solicitor is imply-ing that I should have men-tioned these before obtaining probate. Is it not enough to give records in the corrective affidavit? They amount to nearly £2,000.

■ I note that you have paid bills on behalf of the estate and have now obtained probate. It should be possible to obtain a corrective affidavit to take the expenses into account when calculating inheritance tax and also ensure that you can obtain a rebate. If an executor advances

money out of his own pocket to pay the debts of his testator, he is entitled to be repaid in full, in priority to the creditors. He is also entitled to an allowance of interest for the money so advanced. Repayment will come from the estate and his liability must be allowed for in calculating inheritance tax.

This reply was provided by Barry Stillerman of accountants Stoy Hayward.

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MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Computing

N THE pre-computer age it was often said that the business manager's problems were aggravated by lack of data. Now the reverse is

Managers suffer from an overload of data. This plethora of data has reached such proportions that often the managers have difficulty seeing the wood for the trees. When it comes to decision making or problem solving it is not raw data but information that is needed.

Information and data are not syn onymous. Data is merely the building blocks of information: it is the interpretation of data that provides information. Only when we bring together these pieces of information are we able to distinguish a recognisable pattern.

There are many software packages that support the organisation of our ideas and thoughts. Most computer programs of this type allow the collection of pieces of information as well as rapid and easy restructuring of the individual

adopt a sequential and linear

Colour your thinking Robin Brooker looks at innovative software designed to help managers sift data approach, Brainstorm is more hierarchical; the opening screen shows

while lower screens gradually reveal more and more branches and detail. CK Modeller takes a new and innovative approach much closer to gestalt methodology. CK Modeller is described by its originators – Idon Software - as a package for management thinking. It moves from the six elements of Edward De Bono's perceptions on lateral-thinking to a ten-colour map of ideas, thoughts, issues and assumptions which can be manipulated on the

just the trunk of your thoughts

computer screen. A reasonable analogy is the jigsaw puzzle. Most people when attempting a new puzzle tip all the pieces on to a flat surface. Using

guide, they gather together the pieces which appear to relate to particular parts of the picture.

CK Modeller uses much the same method. But, instead of prepared pieces, coloured hexagons are marked with your thoughts. The hexagon allows more relationships to be formed than the simple list of linear, or hierarchical based software. When you have exhausted this initial thinking task you form clusters of those ideas that seem to fit together.

As these separate clusters form you may recognise how particular clusters link together. Other clusters, at this stage, may have no links. It is CK Modeller's ability to show these missing links of the

the reference illustration as a problem that makes it unique.

guide, they gather together the You have to make up pieces, using new ideas, that will actually tie the different clusters together. These, initially, may be quite tenuous links: they may be merely annotated arrows. But, as your thoughts progress the separate clusters become more part of the whole and you will gradually build

> or extended idea. The use of colour within CKModeller is psychological, and a further step towards understanding of the issue at hand. Psychologically, red is the colour of danger, green is for growth, freshness and the new. By encapsulating this evocation within the structure of the problem we are able to pick out

a complete model of your problem

require action, from areas that merely convey information. The completed model will be an icon of the overall thought process and will convey all the nuances of ideas brought forward.

The system of thinking in hexa-gons is not new - though its use with computer has only recently been made generally available. The computer version offers considerable advantages over its manual counterpart.

First, it offers the ability to construct larger models than would be possible with hexagons and whiteboard. The model might be part of a network of sub-models and by using objects called activators CK Modeller can launch other models

parts which signal danger, or or even other computer applications that contain the raw data on which the ideas are based. These ideas of cognitive kinetics may be

new to you

initially, because of my previous experiences and the way I use outllners, I had some learning to do before I could grasp the concepts though when I explained the principles to my 20-year-old daughter she immediately recognised its potential. What I had struggled to understand, she grasped within minutes. Operating the software is simplicity itself. There is no intensive keyboard input as most operations are carried out on a graphics window

using a mouse. CK Modeller is unlike most other computer applications. When the

appropriate formulae and data requests have been put into a spreadsheet or database the computer takes over the work.

CK Modeller requires effort. While it supports your thinking and allows you to restructure your thoughts in a matter of minutes you remain in complete control.

In the user manual that accompanies the software there is a suggestion that once you have encapsulated all your ideas in a model the next step is to build a new lattice using the same set of hexagons. Only, this time, take a hexagon from the periphery of the original cluster and regard it as the central theme of your new model. As it will form a different perspective of the problem it will also reveal new relationships and dependencies between individual items. But that,

as they say, is another story.

CK Modeller, with manual. book 'Thinking with Hexagons' and a magnetic travel kit for hexagon planning without a computer, is £395 plus VAT and £5 shipping from Idon Software, Edradour House, Pitlochry, Perthshire, PH16 5JW. 0796



Print for success: Peter Duxbury (left), the London Scarf Company's managing director; Jane Swan, sales manager and David Hopkins, production manager, show off their wares

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Warm glow of profits keeps out chill of recession

"I'VE been in the British textile industry for 30 years. It has been one long retreat. Those of us who are still here think of ourselves as equivalent to the survivors of

ETER Duxbury is looking forward now to a business life better than mere survival. The London Scarf Company, which he set up a little more than a year ago designing and contracting out the printing of scarves for big department stores, has turned in remarkable first-year sales of £870,000. "We have just started in the tie market as well. I'd hope to do overall per-

haps £1m in our second year." London Scarf is a classic example of an infant business created by people already experienced in the same trade by working for large companies. Duxbury was a manager at Josef Otten, an Austrian textile distributor. He finished his days there in 1991 by winding up that company's British trad-

ing operations. He decided to set up on his own, taking with him two Josef Otten employees. He had promised orders from Jacqmar, a UK scarf brand whose operations had been serviced by companies Duxbury had

once worked for. The idea was to design scarves in London and have them made by low-cost printers in China, Japan and Italy

for importation into Europe. "We decided we could develop a product which we would target on major retailers rather than a mass of small shops. Joseph Otten had 400-500 customers for its scarves. We have 23 which are most of the big department

store groups." Duxbury had £100,000 of his own to put at the company's disposal. "The company is well funded. It had to have good secure footing or I would not have gone into it."

On top of that, Duxbury negotiated with Hambros Bank a reserve figure of more than £40,000 to be tapped into if necessary. "Hambros have been wonderful. They have given us every support."

As it happens, setting up London Scarf was not expensive. Duxbury puts start-up costs at about £15,000. That included legal fees and first payments on a smallish works studio whose yearly rent. for

500 square feet in London is a rather high £14,000.

In its first year, the company produced 100 designs and close to 200,000 scarves, all but 10 per cent of which were silk. A little over a half of production was supplied wholesale to department stores. The rest still using London Scarf designs - were bought direct by stores from the scarf printers, Duxbury's company collects an agency fee.

London Scarf takes most of its designs from paintings sub-mitted by freelance artists. An artist receives about £350 for a design and its colour work. Selected designs are air-mailed to one of London Scarf's three manufacturers - in Tokyo, Shanghai and in the scarf printing area near Lake Como in Italy.

A typical London Scarf product uses 10 to 12 colours. Much

Nick Garnett visits the London Scarf Company. where first-year sales totalled £870,000

more expensive Hermés scarfs might have up to 30. In preparation for printing, each colour (with its own part of the overall design) must be converted by the printer into an individual "screen", usually made of nylon. Each colour with its pattern is printed separately on each scarf, the silk moving underneath the fixed screens through which dye is poured.

"Surprisingly, the process is much more automated in China than in Japan but actual material handling is much more advanced in Japan," says Duxbury.

"For the same money you get a better scarf from China than from Japan," says Jane Swan, who also came from Josef Otten. "It is thicker and hemmed by hand."

The cost of designing a scarf and producing its colour screens (a further £1,000) must be absorbed in the price. Production runs for a scarf design range from 500 to about 6,000. London Scarf makes a relatively tight average return of between a third and 40 per cent, measuring the price it receives for each scarf against the cost of producing them. The biggest margins, as so often happens, are enjoyed by the retailers. A silk scarf retailing at £20 will be bought by the retailer for about £7.

Duxbury says the pre-tax margin for the first year was about 5 per cent but he is looking for an eventual return on capital of 30 per cent. London Scarf's main competitors include two US companies. Echo and Liz Claiborne, as well as in-house designers some stores employ.

About a quarter of the company's sales are in France. The Monoprix chain placed the largest order the infant company has so far enjoyed - one of £50,000. Duxbury is keen to find agents for his scarves in Germany, Spain and Scandina via. Apart from reducing dependency on the UK's £7m silk scarf market, such expan sion would prove particularly lucrative. The idea is to sell the design in a number of countries. This would raise profits by spreading design and screen-production costs. Nylon screens, which are stored at the scarf printers, last for three

years before corroding. London Scarf caters for the middle mass market. "We'll wait for two years before deciding whether to go into boutiques. A typical boutique buys from a merchant a scarf for £15 and sells it for £50."

The downside is that this would force London Scarf into becoming a holder of stock, another cost burden.

Duxbury would like to have scarves printed in the UK but says the one silk printer capable of doing it - a company used by Liberty's - has high production costs. London Scarf will almost certainly stick to overseas silk printers for its ties. "We are crashing into the tie market although it is very competitive," says Duxbury. We have so far done 7,000 for France. We are expecting to do 60,000-70,000 ties this year."

In recession, retailers squeeze the margins of little companies like London Scarf. But tough trading has a silver lining. Swan says: "What has helped us is that department stores are cutting their numbers of buyers and, as they are more hard pressed, they tend to depend more on our advice."

■ The London Scarf Company, 301 Blackfriars Foundry, 156 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8EN. Tel: 071-721-7070

Faith and science

Continued from Page I

replicating computer virus. The radical theologian Don Cupitt, dean of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, sees religion as another kind of programme, a developing activity rather like art, which can discover no final or absolute truth.

credit that they have put the

record straight in their own

"For example, to say 'He ascended into Heaven' means Another nothing to us now," he said.
"All dogma is entangled in a medieval world view and has to be rethought as a whole you can't do it piece by piece." A more charitable view of the Vatican's programme is taken by the Rev Dr Arthur Peacocke, a physical biochemist and Anglican priest who has also taken part in the conferences at Castelgandolfo, the Pope's summer residence. "Given their inbuilt reactionary system it's to their

legalistic way," he said. Science and theology might be addressing different questions but they applied similar criteria. "People put them together in

different ways. I say both are part of truth and reality and you can't put them in separate pigeonholes. Sometimes the interreaction is puzzling, sometimes it is creative." Anglican scientist-priest who has been to

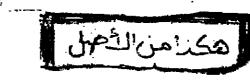
Castelgandolfo is the Rev Dr John Polkinghorne, president of Queens' College, Cambridge. His views carry weight: he is a fellow of the Royal Society and was professor of mathematical physics at the university before his ordination 10 years

He, too, sees a kinship between science and theology: their use of induction, of models and metaphors, their search for simplicity of hypothesis and unified theory. "But science is asking one sort conversion.

religion another. There are connections between the answers - there is an uneasy sort of puzzling boundary between the two. People say one is public, the other private. I don't think that's right after all, ethics and ideas of beauty are common concepts. It's not expressing an opinion to say that torturing children is wrong. A lot of people in the science world are wistful fellow-travellers who fear that the answers of religion might be a kind of suicide."

of question," he said, "and

As he takes off for Arizona to begin work in the Mount Graham observatory, Father Coyne is unabashed. "Any advance in science, correctly heard by the Church, is a help to the Church," he said. The Pope may have declared a truce with science but it could be a long time before the world is ready to believe in Rome's



apartheid.

But now Moscow and Pretoria, bitterest enemies for decades, have become strange comrades in battle: falteringly, they fight the tide of culture and history to pursue a lib-eral democratic goal which seems to recede as often as it draws

Neither is likely to follow a straight path to democracy - if indeed, they ever get there. But both are committed to ruling by consent and not coercion; and a return to either totalitarianism or apartheid is out of the question. Both must therefore search for a more or less democratic form of government which can hold anarchy at bay while protecting the

minimum of civil liberties. So far the move to democracy has fostered chaos, crime and violence in both countries. Many already yearn for a strong man to restore order. In South Africa, a prominent mixed race politician complains (only half in jest) "I miss apart-heid"; and most Russians would probably understand this nostalgia for authoritarian certainty.

Truth of the Matter

Muddling towards democracy

But in the longer term, a betting man would probably conclude that Russia will stay the course to full democracy — however circuitous and that South Africa will not. Both face formidable obstacles to democratisation, chief among them problems of ethnicity and economic bardship. But South Africa has a further overwhelming disadvan-tage: the rigid correlation between wealth and race decreed by

For democracy is scarcely the obvious solution for a country where the majority is poor, black and impatient and the minority white, rich and powerful: democracy invites the individual to use his vote to obtain a fairer share of wealth; but any government which indulges the urge to redistribute wealth will alienate white skills and capital, and jeopardise economic growth. Either way, the incumbent government would suffer at the ballot box - and would probably soon decide to dispense with democratic elections.

As Alexis de Tocqueville pointed out more than 150 years ago: "When the people rule, they must be rendered happy or they will overturn the state." But in South Africa, the "state" would not give up without a fight; a new govern-ment may well be tempted to impose its will - in the national interest, of course - rather than hand over to the opposition.

Not surprisingly, most South Africans reject this scenario: indeed, they find cheer in the midst of political upheaval by counting their considerable blessings in comparison with Russia. South African democrats will inherit intact the one most necessary condition for democracy: a market economy. That economy may have been damaged by 40 years of "Afrikaner socialism", which used state capital to set up nationalised industries dominated by the "white tribe of Africa". But repairing its flaws is a small task compared with that facing Russia's economic reformers. From nothing, they must create financial markets, draw up a detailed body of company law and construct all the institutional supports necessary to capitalism.

South Africa inherits these

things from the apartheid state;

and before the African National Congress decides to tamper with this inheritance, it should reflect on the ways in which capitalism underpins the democratic system which the ANC professes as its goal. In developed democracies, the private sector functions as an important check on the power of governmental authority; and the

Patti Waldmeir on the problems that face South Africa and Russia

market economy holds out the best hope of a prosperity which is essential to bolster democracy from

Paradoxically, South Africans will also inherit from apartheid most undemocratic ideology the infrastructure of a thriving political democracy which Russia struggles so painfully to build. South Africa has political parties, independent courts, lobby groups and all the paraphernalia of parliamentary democracy, which can surely be adapted for a multi-racial future. But in Russia the Communist Party, which invaded every aspect of personal and public life, has deeply discredited the very notion of "party"; indeed, there are few coherent party alternatives to President Boris Yeltsin, himself something of a one-man band.

Progress towards the establish-

ment of an independent judiciary in Russia is perhaps more advanced: the new Constitutional Court represents a milestone on the path to democracy. But Russia has no tradition of challenging state power through the courts - certainly not under communism, when challenging party decisions was effectively forbidden – and it lacks the institutional depth (the courts, the judges, the independent law-yers) present in South Africa. Even in the worst days of apartheid abuse, South Africa's courts managed to preserve much of their

independence.
But democracy requires more than political parties, elections and courts: a vigorous civil society

churches, women's groups to chambers of commerce) is necessary to frustrate the would-be tyrant. Such civil infrastructure is well developed in both black and white South Africa - and almost non-existent in Russia. Organised business and labour in South Africa could counter-balance government power, civic associations in black townships could prove a further check on central government; and with three-

a major political force. What is more, South Africa will inherit a state machine which actually works; in Russia, where party and state were practically indivisible, the collapse of the one has destroyed the other. No new South African government is likely to face the crisis of executive power which currently assails Moscow. So that is the triple challenge facing Russia: to create a modern

quarters of the population actively

religious, the churches will remain

state, a modern market economy and democratic political institutions, and to do so simultaneously under conditions of great economic hardship.

But however daunting the immediate crisis, Russia will probably muddle through in the end to democracy and prosperity. And South Africa, whatever its early advantages, may not. Western democracies will continue to pro-vide moral support to Russian democrats (however unreliable their financial backing), while South Africa will rapidly be left to itself on the remote tip of a forgotten continent. And over time, the gross inequalities of South African society could prove too much for a

fledgling democracy.

Both face problems of ethnicity and economic deprivation which threaten democracy; but in South Africa, crucially, they are linked. While Russians struggle (more or less) equally to survive, race determines the degree of hardship experienced by each South African. As long as that is so palpably true, it is hard to see how democracy can take root.

But even if South Africa - perhaps Russia too - reverts temporarily to authoritarian rule, there can be no returning to the specific abominations of the past. Totalitarian communism and apartheid are ruled out forever. The future can

Patti Waldmeir's Paper, "Is Democracy achievable in Russia and/or South Africa?" is obtainable from the Center for Strategic and International Studies Suite 400, 1800K St NW Washington DC



wonderful prelude to in business life. the unpredictable dance . which the seasons now

work for us all. Last week, there seemed to be nothing; then, on Saturday, there were hundreds of crocuses wrapped like yellow pencils; on Sunday, there were aconites in churchyards and on Monday, snowdrops were spattering the ground once more.

We are a month ahead of schedule, while the last of the winter's roses are still waiting to leave the stage and their green leaves make a curious backdrop to a new year. After weeks of gloomy rain, these early visitors stand out like drops of sunshine.

They remind me that it is time for gardeners to get mov-ing. Before they start, they will need little reminding that their art is never cheap.

Mirrored in our gardens' microcosm, all economic life is reflected. Once upon a time, we used to supply ourselves, grow our own plants and pay people to help us look after them.

n a sudden leap, there Since the 1970s, the trade has one country to another. At this the real business of life, so are flowers again, a changed as rapidly as anything point, the question of the econ- amply covered in the Weekend

> Consumers want different things: busy householders will pay for shops to display plants for immediate sale; garden centres have multiplied and keen. fresh stock has become the cult

of the visiting public.

With their usual subtlety. sellers have traded on their two best human allies, impulse and impatience. Why wait for years when money can buy you a plant which already looks reassuringly bigger than other people's? If you like it, take it away in the car boot.

Here, technology has come to the rescue. In this new age of polythene, plants can be turned out of their plastic containers at almost any season: they can also be moved from

us all through a twist in ou national idea of ourselves.

We all know the stereotype:

The Belgian and Dutch plants which fill garden centres have shot up in price. Robin Lane Fox has a plan . . .

omy and its prospects confront FT. Nobody could dispute the art of our flower gardens at their best or the widespread love of

British goods may be declining; the monarchy may be intercepted on the wrong frequency,

but at least we Brits know how

to garden and our gardening is

the envy of Europe. Tourist

boards promote it: even the

French have to admit that it is

better than theirs; economists

sometimes blame it for other

I have sometimes been told

by serious pundits that a rea-

son why British Industry is los-

ing its competitive edge is that

employees are more interested

in their gardens and that the

managers are waiting every

day to get back to the roses or

of mine) is engagingly awful. I do also notice how this national art is called "English gardening", as if nothing of any significance happened on the Celtic fringe. If I had to choose only one public garden in the kingdom, it would always be the Edinburgh Botanic Garden, but perhaps it is too Olympian to object to

gardening, planting and grow-

ing. However, I do think that

the better examples are rather

rare and that visually, much of

our gardening (including bits

the English insult. What does amuse me, and in future may alarm me, is that the backbone of the best garden centres, many of our nurseries and our garden landscaping is not actually grown in England or even in Britain. Dreamy English gardening is all very well in a summer's haze, but many of its greatest nurseries buy the plants for it in the Netherlands and which is analytic, the other is

You can see why this piece of national double-think will soon have economic consequences. Personally, I will rely irony is not going to disappear quietly or without cost.

f course there are planty "people" all over Britain with their own cottage industries and home-grown lists of lesser-known specimens. Yet they cannot supply the trade with much of its better shrubs, hedging plants, bulbs and border plants because they do not specialise or grow to the right scale perhaps, or, to be charitable, have such a good European soil. Whenever you see a particularly big and seductive plant in the garden centre, it is highly likely to have been imported from a Dutchman or a Belgian who would not know how to pronounce Miss Jekyll's

name. This nice little irony prompts me to two conclusions, one of

randens are nou

and designers have to import a

mass of its basic materials

because their obsessive nation-

als cannot grow it for them-

selves.

commonsense. Like machine ply prudential. Now that so tools, the plants for Englishmany retail sources are depending on plants from imported en masse from Europe, their cost is not exactly going to obey the chan-Many argue that Britain cellor's happy predictions while the currency is suffering would have a bright economic future in heavy industry if from wilt. Flower bulbs have only engineering was part of our daily culture. Those people already made a nonsense of the retail index because most of ought to stop and consider the them come in from the Nethercase of gardening. Gardening is lands and this season's sumagreed to be not just a cultural mer lilies, hyacinths and gladitaste but a national obsession: oli have had surcharges of 15 nonetheless, our big traders per cent or more imposed on

> Matters have not been helped by an awkward season in 1992 for many of the maincrop bulbs in which the Dutch.

My second conclusion is sim-

especially, excel. As for evergreen yew, box and well-grown specialities such as viburnum or witch hazel, the same price rises will soon apply wherever the retail trade has grown to

The moral, therefore, is to swap impatience for self-sufficiency and start to grow as much as possible from seeds from one's own garden and seed lists. The choice of seeds is one of the pleasures of late January and next week, I will be scanning for a short list. This year, however, it has an extra economic thrust.

I have already pre-booked my seeds of regale lilies, white galtonias and mixed agapanthus. I have opted for patience with the late-flowering lespedeza whose silky leaves and rose-purple flowers are such a blessing in autumn and I will be trying for half-hardy daturas from seed. Anything the Dutch can do I can surely do half as well: from a seed packet, you always raise more than you need, with a margin of error which allows even an Englishman without illusions

As They Say in Europe

Talking dirty in six languages

NE THING the papers shared this week was Clinton fatigue. Editorials from Dublin to Lublin made half-hearted attempts not to be boring but failed. The inauguration of a president remains, as ever, the crossroads of his-tory that lead to a new beginning and the quest for the rebirth of the American dream. Only *Paris-Normandie* had an interesting view of the new man in the White House: "It is as if Pontartier town council were put in charge of France." Pontarlier is, incidentally, much nicer than Little Rock.

So, like the papers, I pursued last week's topic: unacceptable behaviour and, my special interest, cross-frontier variations in definitions of it. The research programme accidentally revealed that the British can deal easily with the wilder shores of human emotions and the French cannot.

I discovered this thanks to AFP, the French news agency. The test involved the revelations concerning a telephone conversation supposedly between a male member of the royal family and a woman with whom he was evidently on good terms. Sure enough the

British, and English-speakers in general, were assumed to be able to deal with the raw truth. When the story broke in Australia, the English service of AFP gave it 1,000 words.

In French, however, it was compressed to under 200 words and the sole reference to the contents of the "presumed transcription" noted that the two 'do not hide either their love or their reciprocal physical attraction" And yet the French at home

have few inhibitions, Political debate is larded with words that I would not transcribe even in asterisks. Comedy shows on television can consist of a stream of jokes that make the average British stand-up comic sound like Noel Coward.

Such material can also provide the basis for what pas for German humour yet it would be unacceptable in Spain or Britain. But these two countries themselves differ on what is acceptable. In my local paper, among advertisements for plumbers and electricians, is a column of notices detailing the facilities available for making, yes, telephone calls of a lubricious nature. Such items used to decorate Spanish papers but not since the phone

lines were closed last month in response to widespread public pressure.

Yet those same papers, often liberal and leftish, freely advertise the services of transvestite prostitutes, among others. Afternoon television programmes for children can be interspersed with items where youngish females progressively divest themselves of what do

asks what offends the man on a London omnibus

seem to be rather uncomfort-

James Morgan

able garments.
National sensitivities involve not only the intimate side of life. The delicacy of the British struck me this week in a bus which had a sign saying, "We would prefer you not to eat or drink on this bus. However, if you do would you please take your litter with you." I spent some time working out how this would translate. German is not suitable for conveying moral uncertainty or the doctrine of the second best; the

nearest I got was Essen und trinken verboten. In French the warning is like something from a home for the incontinent elderly; in Italian, an invitation to steal the bus; in Russia, nobody sufficiently resourceful to possess the items involved would be fool enough to leave anything behind. And in Czech, the sign would be a trap to ensnare the man with a sandwich in an endless bureau-

cratic nightmare.

The same 9A bus also saw the entrance of an inspector who treated even those without a ticket with some deference. This was a savage contrast with what I remember from my time in Vienna, where, in similar operations, two young toughs board a tram at opposite ends, the doors slamming tight shut behind them. They adopt the demeanour of those who had mastered the techniques of extracting confessions efficiently, open their denim jackets to expose heavy metal badges and shout Kontrollieren. Not surprisingly

nobody is without a ticket. The purpose of this digression is to set the scene for my favourite opinion poll which appeared again in the Vienna tabloid, Kurier, the other day.

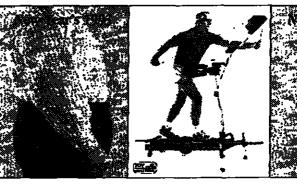
The question was: "Which groups would you find objec-tionable as neighbours?" Top of the poll were Turks and Romanians; the least unpopular of the nine were Slovenes and Jews. (Discussion of the prevalence of anti-Semitism in this part of the world often fails to reflect the rich spectrum of prejudice that characterises Austrian society.) Commentators noted that there had been a steady fall in the level of hatred from the peak in 1988, the year newspapers demanded that "Waldheim must go" following revelations about his wartime past that he

had prefered to conceal.) I have asked many questions about this poll over the years: is a list of "detestees" presented to respondents or can they supply their own? Whatever happened to the Poles who once led the field but now get scarcely a mention? And, has anybody ever included the Viennese on the list?

But the question I suppose I am really asking is this: would The Sun publish the results of such a poll if it were conducted in Britain?

■ James Morgan is economics correspondent of the BBC World

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TRAVEL FOCUS: AFRICA

On the trail of small game in the Gambia

"THERE, Roger, There! Oooochhh, Yeesss!"

I was sitting in a bright green and yellow six-wheeled truck with buffalo horns wired to the bonnet and rows of old cinema seats in the back, and beside me was a girl so excited she was almost dribbling in my ear. It was irritating. My name is not Roger. There are moments when I wonder why I like travel.

There were about a dozen of us in the truck, an old Swedish army vehicle that had seen more African miles than a truck deserves to. Currently it was in the service of a tour company that takes prawn-pink European tourists into the dusty countryside of southern Gambia and shows them the sights.

The excited squeaks and coos had begun early in the morning, before we had even left the strip of Atlantic coast where the tourist hotels range the beach. Roger was sitting on one side of the truck, Jane on the other. Both had binoculars to their eyes, cameras around their necks. Never had two more enthusiastic discoverers set foot in Africa. It took me some time to work out

what it was they were discovering. 'Yaaaah!", Jane would let loose a barely restrained shriek, rocking the seat beside me. "Its a drongo!" But what was a drongo? I would

gaze in the direction that Jane was training her binoculars, and try to imagine what one looked like. Was it the little anthill-looking thing off to the left? Or the spiky tree behind the anthill? Or maybe the little tin shack just behind the spiky tree? I could see nothing at all.

This inexplicable behaviour began to get on my nerves. It was some time after we had visited Uncle John's country palm wine bar, but a few minutes before being held up for sweets and pens at the Jambur primary school, that I borrowed a pair of binoculars from a fellow tourist and realised what Jane and Roger were getting so excited about

It was birds. Take a pair of binoculars outdoors in the Cambia - anywhere:

hotel gardens, the potholed streets graphical aberration, it is the result of commercial conflict between Brit-

of Serrekunda town, into the peanut fields or mangrove swamps along the Gambia River - and suddenly what can at times appear to be a miserably poor and tourist-ridden country is transformed into a series of vignettes of astonishing wealth and beauty. I arrived in the Gambia knowing and caring nothing about birds. When I left I was well on the way to becoming one of that most hopeless of species, the addicted birdwatcher.

The Gambia has had few fair shakes since it became a British slave-trading entrepot in the 18th century. An historical and geo-

sluggish, mangrove-bordered waterway which flows through its heart. The result, today, is a country which, while some 300 miles long, posesses land only 15-to-30 miles wide on either side of the river. With no hinterland, the Gambia's options are few. Ninety per cent of its meagre wealth comes from peanut exports. Its population is one of

ish and French colonial trading

interests. While France, master of

much of north and west Africa, laid

effective claim to the huge territory

of Senegal, the British were able to

hang on to the Gambia River, the

the densest, fastest expanding and poorest in Africa. Tourism is one of its brighter hopes. Just five hours' flight from London and with six months' guaranteed sunshine during the northern hemisphere winter, it is an increasingly popular package destination.

If the Gambia's history and geography have made it a place where North and South collide, its river has also incited a more gentle kind of meeting. One of the few waterways to flow through this vast semi-arid region of west Africa, the Gambia attracts millions of birds every year. Each dry season hundreds of species, most African, some European migrants, congregate on the country's riverbanks, beaches, mudflats, forests and grasslands,

Does an annual winter colloquium of birds sound slightly tedious? Perhaps, in England, it might. But this is no dull, greybrown meeting of humble nuthatches and self-effacing finches. This is Africa, and its penchant for flamboyance, oddity, excess and gaudy allure has been passed on to its feathered inhabitants. The birds of the Gambia are, quite simply,

outrageous, and make the country one of the premier birdwatching areas in the world.

One early morning a few days after my south Gambia tour I set out with Lamin Sidibeh. a Gambian who at 29 is fast building a reputation as a professional bird guide. He

often more technical skill and per-sonal knowledge needed in spotting them, and a great deal less preparation and money involved. To sight a white rhino requires a costly expedition into a game park.

To spot the much smaller but equally spectacular malachite kingfisher - a brilliant jewel of a creature - you might only have to gaze up at a telephone line while ambling over to a restaurant for

mon to find that an early interest in

big game watching is replaced by a

deep and long-lasting enthusiasm

for birds. There is greater variety.

Nicholas Woodsworth watches drongos, coucals, bar-tailed godwits, malachite kingfishers and other flamboyant inhabitants of the land of 507 birds

is known far away in England to the BBC - the Bedfordshire Bird Club - two of whose members I had met walking goggle-eyed about the lush gardens of the Senegambia

Hard-core birdwatchers have a habit of drifting away in mid-sentence, their eyes suddenly fixed on some object above your left shoulder, but I did manage to hold them long enough to find out that Lamin is one of the best in the business. Among old Africa hands it is com-

Lamin and L for example, began that morning in a not terribly auspicious sounding place close to the hotel area, the Kotu sewage ponds. It sounds ghastly, but there we saw a whole series of delicate waders, birds like the blackwing stilt that mince around perched on thin pink legs that make up two-thirds of their height. We saw the cormorantlike African darter drying its wings after diving, and an English visitor, the grey heron, spearing its sharp bill into schools of little fish. From that point on, the morning was an unending succession of discoveries and surprises. In a spiky, harvested millet field, where peasant women were collecting stalks to feed their cattle, we came across a Senegal coucal with green tail, white breast, black head and red wings and eyes, scuttling through the stubble catching lizards.

warding

In an irrigated rice field we watched a snowy white cattle egret wrestling with a frog almost too big to get down its narrow throat.

On a mud flat by a small estuary we watched a bar-tailed godwit, a bird with a beak almost as long as its body, poking around the man-grove roots catching fiddler crabs for breakfast.

I had passed the Fajara golf club any number of times without thinking much of it. Its fairways are yellowed, its greens brown. That morning it became an entrancing place: all you have to do is look up. There we saw a giant kingfisher, a full 18 inches long from beak to tail, flash by in a brilliant blue streak. Not far away, in that strangest of African trees, the baobab, we watched bright green long-tailed parakeets peck at the fruit that is used to make cream of tartar.

Standing by the hollow of a neem tree - West Africans use its leaves as a malaria remedy - Lamin whis-tled a scale of liquid, ascending notes: they were similarly answered from inside the hollow, and in a minute or two a pearl-spotted owlet emerged to blink sleepily at us. One of the aerial wonders we spotted up a tall palm tree was not a bird at all, but a palm wine tapper doing his morning rounds, shinnying up and down collecting gourds of sweet fermented sap.

I shall not go on. Suffice it to say that in one morning I saw 55 different kinds of birds, each new one as exciting and different as the last. I cannot decide which I like best, but I think I would plump for the tiny nectar-drinking sunbirds, impossibly bright creatures in yellow, scarlet and ruby.

I did not quite see the full range, though: there are said to be 507 species of birds in the Gambia. Even Lamin has seen only 379. But I have not given up. If, in the future, you come across a wild-eyed twitcher crouched in some distant palm grove muttering "Yeesss! It's a drongo!", it might be me.

■ Nicholas Woodsworth travelled c/o The Gambia Experience (tel: 0703-730888). a specialist tour company that offers return air fare from London and seven nights' accommodation with breakfast at the Kairaba Hotel for £448-£548. Lamin Sidibeh can be contacted c/o Customs & Excise, Wellington St. Banjul, the Gambia (tel: 94852).

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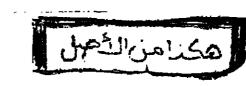
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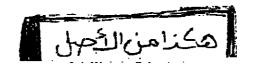
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TRAVEL FOCUS: AFRICA



Practical Traveller: Safaris/Michael J Woods

North Luangwa now open

HE TRACKS were very fresh in the off-white talc of the dusty path - there was an African hunting dog not far ahead. We set off on foot, treading silently and hardly daring to breathe. We had barely reached the bend in the track which led through thick mopane scrub when the wild dog doubled back and met us face to face. We had walked into the middle of a

This was one of those chance encounters which turn an African safari from a holiday into an adventure. One way of maximising the chances of such encounters is to choose your destination carefully. With more areas opening up for visitors, opportunities are

Zambia's South Luangwa national park has long been noted for its walking safaris and its exciting night drives. while North Luangwa has only recently been opened to visitors, although on a limited scale. Zambia was one of the pioneers of walking safaris. They are generally well planned and full of inter-

Abercrombie & Kent, Worldwide

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Journeys and Expeditions, Twickers World, and Art of Travel all go to Luangwa Valley, but of these only Art of Travel specifically includes North Luangwa. Expect to pay £1,855 and up for 14 days.

While the walks in Zambia take you from one fixed camp to another, Richard Bonham's walking expeditions into Tanzania's enormous Selous game reserve are more in the traditional safari mould. Strings of porters are used, and you sleep under the stars. Worldwide Journeys and Expeditions offers these safaris from £3,950. The traditional theme is repeated

elsewhere in Tanzania where Gibbs Farm Safaris takes clients into the vast grass seas of the Serengeti. Camping in luxury tents, you will not see another vehicle in spite of the open country. Nigel Perks, who runs GFS, has an uncanny knack of finding the most elusive of animals. These safaris can be booked through Art of Travel, while Twickers World has fly-in safaris to the Serengeti from £2.615 for 17 days.

A destination that has become much more accessible now that Air Namibia operates direct flights from Heathrow is Namibia. With its good road network, this southern African country makes an excellent destination for a fly-drive tour. Etosha national park has plenty of elephant, black rhino and lions, and a stay at Okaukuejo, with its floodlit water hole, is not to be missed

One country to rejoin the safari scene recently is Uganda, which has gorillas. The borders of Zaire, Rwanda and Uganda meet in the volcanic massif which forms the last stronghold of the mountain gorilla. It is particularly good to see that gorilla-watching in Rwanda is possible again now, as the continued conservation of these primates depends so much on western visitors. Twickers World has a 23-day tour including visiting chimpanzees in Tanzania from £1,675, while Abercrombie & Kent has a four-day add-on to a standard safari for around £1.021. Mana Pools national park on the

banks of the River Zambezi in Zimbabwe is not only excellent for walking but is one of the highlights of a canoe safari down the Zambezi, a leisurely way to see game, especially hippos and crocodiles, at quite close quarters. In turn, overland transport comes in many forms. Abercrombie & Kent offers a traditional ox-wagon safari on the shores of Kenya's Lake Naivasha (two days, £480 ex-Nairobi), or a camel safari in northern Kenya (three days, £307 ex-Nairobi), while there is the opportunity to explore parts of the Kalahari desert in Botswana on all-terrain vehicles.

Botswana's Okavango delta, a rich mixture of glittering channels, clear lagoons, water-lilied pools and sandy, palm-treed islands, has never been easy to travel around. One way is to take an unhurried safari in traditional mokoros, dug-out canoes, which are poled through the placid waters of this enormous labyrinth of waterways by local guides, with an occasional walk on one of the thousands of islands.

■ Telephone numbers: Abercrombie & Kent, 071-730-7795; Art of Travel: 071-738-2038; British Airways Holidays: 0293-611611; Dragoman: 0728-861133; Explore Worldwide: 0252-319448; Exodus Overland: 081-675-7996; Guerba Expeditions: 0373-826611; Southern Africa Travel: 0904-692469; Sunvil Holidays: 081-568-1499; Twickers World: 081-892-8164: Worldwide Journeys and Expeditions: 071-381-8638.

A mosaic in the grand style

"Tunis is a land of liberty," wrote the Chevalier d'Arvieux, a French diplomat, over three centuries ago. "Religion disturbs no one; they pray to God when they must, fast when they cannot do otherwise, drink wine when they have money, get drunk when they drink too much and no one finds any

HESE words ring true today and explain, as much as the sand and deep blue sea, why more than 2m Europeans travel to the only country in the world whose name is derived from a fish, tuna. The bulk of those who travel to Tunisia go on summer package tours. Others have discovered that off the beaten track, North Africa's smallest country has much to offer.

First of all it boasts splendid ancient ruins, the most dra-matic of which are in Dougga, on the western uplands near the Algerian frontier, and a collection of Roman mosaics in the Bardo museum in Tunis which is second to none. For those interested in Muslim architecture, the fortified town and grand mosque of Qairwan, which dates from the 8th century, is but the most remarkable of many scattered around

the country.

The Jewish faith boasts the oldest synagogue in Africa on the island of Jerba, Ulysses' fabled land of the lotus eaters. Every spring, a pilgrimage to the Ghriba synagogue attracts Jews from all over the world to a country where their presence, though much reduced today, spans nearly 3,000 years. For their part, Christians can

turn their thoughts to St Augustine, who delighted in the pleasures of Carthage before preaching a more austere creed as bishop of Hippo in what is now Algeria. On a warm summer night, Carthage still evokes a courtesan past her prime but is still attractive. Neighbouring Libya is virtually closed to foreign visitors. This is the first country an ancient traveller from the east would have crossed on his way

to the "Maghreb al Aqsa," or

"Western land of the setting sun" as people in the Middle East still call the maghreb. Yet, on the sea shore, the setting of the roman ruins at Lep-tis Magna and Sabrata, both an hour's drive from the capital, Tripoli, are exceptional.

Before its present troubles, Algeria attracted maybe 200,000 foreign visitors, mostly headed for the Sahara desert. A quarter of a century ago, the country's leaders set their mind against developing tourism; as a result, Africa's sec-ond largest country boasts few decent hotels, most of the state-controlled ones being very run down.

Gone are the late 19th century days when guides were published in London called Algiers, The Playground of the

North Africa is a place of happy lassitude, says Francis Ghiles

Rich, and wealthy English families built what are to this day the most elegant houses in the Mustafa Superieur residential area of the city.

Yet those who brave discomfort and explore the Tassili plateau, the mountains around Tamanrasset and the oasis of Timimoun and Tahrit, can dis-cover something of the beauty and magic of the desert.

Waiting to be discovered are the strange petrified stone forest of the Tassili, with its thousands of dark silhouettes reminiscent of fur trees weighed down by snow which, on closer inspection, are sandstone needles, and thousands of pre-historic drawings scattered over 50,000 square miles.

The red needles of the Hoggar mountains near Tamanrasset are ouite as unreal. For those interested in architecture there is the town of Ghardaia, founded by the puritan Mozabite sect of Sunni Islam which proved the great inspiration for Le Corbusier's art. Nearer Algiers, the roman ruins of Tipaza enabled Albert

Camus to experience "the happy lassitude of a wedding day with the world." To Camus, the ruins of Tipaza were far more "modern" than many a modern city. This absinthe and jasmine-scented paradise has, however, today fallen victim to the violence

which has engulfed Algeria. Morocco, for its part, boasts almost too many riches: skiing in the Atlas mountains; swimming in the pool of any number of very comfortable hotels in Marrakesh: trekking in the same mountains in late winter or spring through Berber villages which appear like Cubist

paintings hung on steep rocks.

For those who prefer the sun and sea, Morocco's long Mediterranean and Atlantic coasts offer fun all year round. Resorts vary in tone, though Morocco does not greatly encourage package tours and a number of its hotels cater for the seriously rich. The Palais Jamai in Fes, one of the glories of Islam, the Mamounia in Marrakesh and the Minzah in Tangiers are in the grand tradition.

The variety and quality of Moroccan food, which is often sweet-sour, adds to any trip, a true feast providing a seemingly endless flow of dishes. Save for less than half a century as a French protectorate. Morocco has always been inde-

Morocco's glory is its Berber and Arab architecture. The 1,000-year old religious capital of Fes is dominated by the minarets of 100 mosques. Unfortunately, mosques and other reli-gious buildings are not open to non-Muslims.

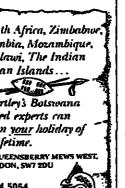
Beyond the red city of Marrakesh, from where in winter the visitor can gaze at the 13,000-ft summits of the Atlas 30 miles away, lie Taroudant, Tafraout and other old towns.

As the traveller descends to the plain from the frozen passes above, he realises he bas landed at the gateway of the Sahara. The contrast is intoxicating, and never more than in late winter when the southern slopes of the Atlas are covered with almond trees in flower.

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History and tradition in land of the commuter

USSEX was remote from civilised society until George IV, the Prince Regent, turned Brighton from a fishing village into a seaside resort centred on his pleasure dome, the Royal Pavilion.

Then, with the advent of the railways in Victoria's reign. Sussex changed for ever. The county of woods and sticky clay, where travelling in a carriage was a nightmare and where blacksmiths and forgemasters worked the iron, burning the trees and damming the streams to make "hammer ponds", became a Home County.

Bankers and stockbrokers, and their clerks, moved out of London and set about creating wonderful gardens of rhododendrons and azaleas. (A century ago, trains to town took the same time as today. The choice of stations was better.) The Sussex they moved to had largely escaped 18th century gentrification there are no Georgian stone stately piles.

Instead, wood, daub, and brick and tile are the basis of the Sussex vernacular, and near the South Downs, knapped flint also. The houses are distinctive - their frames are half-timbered, with a filling of daub, bricks or flint, with the upper part sheathed in vertical hanging tiles as a protection from the weather. Roofs are tiled and low, giving most Sussex houses the

head-hammering beams and brick floors and fireplaces, often wide enough to have an inglenook.

A23 (now being improved) and the railway line, with easy access to Gatwick, Glyndebourne (closed for

The affluent 19th century commuters hastened to enlarge their homes, or build new ones in the same style, as has continued to happen ever since. With their look hardly changed for 400 years, it can be hard today to spot the original bits in an 'old' Sussex house.

> Gerald Cadogan explores Sussex,

with its distinctive houses of half-timber and hung-tiles, its wealth of attractions and a hot-line to the heart of London

As a result, they exude the reassurance of sharing in a living tradi-tion. Sussex is a large county that divides into three parts. West Sussex, bordering on Hampshire, has the attractions of Chichester and its cathedral, theatre, and harbour, and the Roman palace at Fishbourne. racing at Goodwood, and a beautiful, unspoilt hinterland. Mid-Sussex is the London-

1993) and the gardens at Wakehurst Place and Nymans. East Sussex flattens as it nears Kent and the Channel tunnel, and oast houses (for hops) begin to appear. A splendid example of a typical

East Sussex house newly on the market is the 18th century New House Farm at Bodiam, (where the National Trust has a famous castle) and close to Battle, where William of Normandy conquered Harold in 1066. Brick and hung tiles mask its timber frame. Cluttons in Haywards Heath (0444-441166) are offering it at around £350,000, with the adjacent triple oast house for around £200,000, and up to 320 acres of

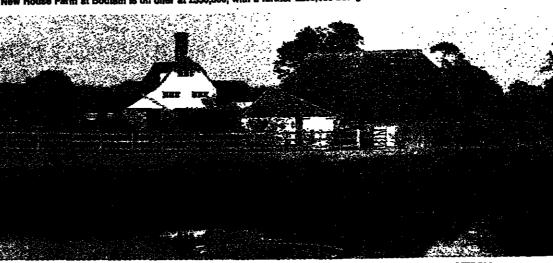
More expensive and basically 16th century (when a family called Thatcher obtained the property at the dissolution of the monasteries), is Arches Manor at Framfield, near Uckfield and Lewes, with John D Wood (071-493-4106) and Batcheller & Thacker in Battle (0424-775577) at around £600,000. Nearby is the 17th century Buckham Hill Farm at Istield, a house rich in oak and with an 18th century barn offered by

Cluttons, at £575,000.

The Stable Cottage at Wadhurst near Tunbridge Wells, with a Victorian coach house that could be converted, is available at around £110,000 from Knight Frank & Rut-



vith a further £200,000 being asked for the adjacent triple cast house



ckham Hill Ferm at Isfield is a 17th century house rich in oak, with an 18th century barn, at around £575,000

ley in Tunbridge Wells (0892-515035). Next door, Hamptons (071-293-8222) offer the big house. Best Beech Place, a 1920s Sussex-style oaken splendour with garden by Gertrude Jekyll, at around £850,000. For keen shots, Knight Frank & Rutley are selling Platts Farm at Burwash looking across to Rudyard Kipling's house (Batemans) at around

£500,000, to include barns and outbuildings, 71 acres and two duck flighting ponds.

Oldcastle at Dallington near Battle is a house that grew over 300 years but did not change its Sussex style. Humberts in Lewes (0273-478828) will sell it to you with nine acres for about 2625,000. Or they offer the attractive 17th century Oak Ferrars Farm at Piltdown, with outbuildings and three acres for about £269,000.

An intriguing East Sussex conversion is the flint Place Barn at Wilmington, nestling under the Downs with views to the giant, chalk-cut Long Man of Wilmington. who stands on the slope holding a stave in either hand. The Barn (Hum-berts, around \$275,000) won a Civic Trust award in 1982.

Another recent conversion is the Coach House at Halland near Lewes, a handsome brick building that has the merit of not being cottage-style. Watsons in Heathfield (0435-865077) offer it at around 2320,000. The best Sussex-style house in East Sussex is called Toad

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Hall: its name must be reflected in the price of £395,000 (from Fox in Haywards Heath, 0444-450105). It is an impressive Wealden hall that could have belonged to an ironmas-

ter, dating back to the 15th century. But finest of all is a manor house, early 17th century and listed Grade II*, built in stone by an ironmaster to show he was above the common Sussex cut, and on offer for only the third time in its history. Court Lodge at Ashburnham near Battle (Knight Frank & Rutley, under offer at around £450,000) comes with a Grade II barn and 48 acres, including 27 acres of vineyards which the vendor would like to rent back from

the new owner for £175 an acre. In mid-Sussex, a similarly grand manor, now a romantic ruin, is part of Brambletye Manor Farm near East Grinstead. The total price for a typical Sussex house, ruins, 26 acres, swimming pool and tennis court is around £495,000, or £100,000 less excluding the farmyard (from John Powell in Forest Row, 0342-822261, or Savills in Sevenoaks, 0732-455551). Odder still, and dearer

at around £1.25m, is Laughton Manor near Lewes (from Hamptons in Mayfield, 0435-872294), a creamstucco early Victorian villa with an Italianate belvedere tower that has popped up in the country from Belgrave Square or Regent's Park.

The Control of the Control

About half that price is a delightful house (from Fox), the Elizabethan East Mascalls in Lindfield near Haywards Heath, which a Cheshire family built with the ornamental half-timbering familiar in the north west. They must have brought their joiner down with them. Nearby Cockhaise Mill Farm is for those who want to run a business, as it comes with a thriving farm shop (with game licence, sausage licence, ice cream licence and liquor licence). Petfood is a new line and doing well. Humberts offer it at around £585,000.

Another neighbour is the many-bedroomed 16th/17th century manor called Tremans at Horsted Keynes, listed Grade II (Humberts, around 2550,000). Arthur Benson, librettist of Land of Hope and Glory called it "almost incredibly picturesque".

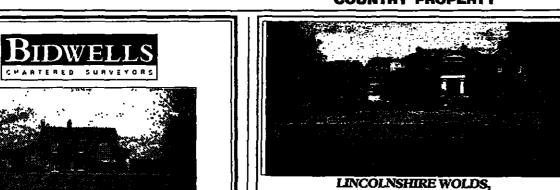
op marks go to Michael Winter-Kaines, a retired British Airways captain who is marketing his Windmill Cottage at Rowhook, near Horsham, himself (0403-790513) at £330,000, provided there is no chain. Not wanting to pay agents' fees, he has produced an excellent, straightforward brochure for an attractive listed Grade II house and cottage and barn, and is amazed at how many people have replied to his advertisements and how nice they are. "They are delighted to deal directly," he says.

If you want to farm in mid-Sussex, the 425 acres of Little Danny Farm at Hurstpierpoint is virtually all the estate once belonging to the imposing Elizabethan manor house called Danny (now retirement hous-ing with the Mutual Households Association). It is an attractive proposition: mixed farming, lovely country, parkland and lakes, in the lee of Wolstonbury Hill (National Trust) on the Downs, and yet no distance from Brighton. Being sold in lots by Humberts, the total asking price is around £1.3m.

Going west, Jackson-Stops in Mid-hurst (0730-812357) offer an essence of cottagey Sussex in Old Hill at Lurgashall, near Petworth, three cottages and a mill run together for around £220,000. The garden is crammed with specimen plants. At Washington they are selling (with King & Chasemore in Pulborough, 0798-872081, at around £445,000) an 1820s old vicarage, a good late Georgian box of a house for those who do not thrill to the wealth of headheight old oak that is the hallmark



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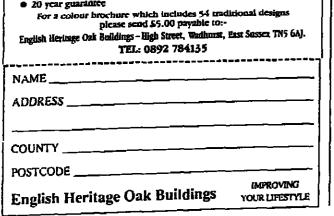
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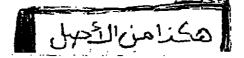
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SPORT AND MOTORING

Rugby Union Why Irish eyes must look abroad

HE rugby was no laughing matter at Murrayfield last Saturday, not even if you were Scottish and celebrating a handsome 15-3 victory over the irish in the opening game of the international championship. What did you think of it, Fergus Slattery was asked?
"Murrayfield is a lovely stadium," said the distinguished former Irish international. deliberately elliptically. "It was

very windy."

If Slattery was being polite, then it was in marked contrast to the newspaper reports of Ireland's 12th successive game without victory in the championship. "Miserable Ireland sink to a new low at Murrayfield" ran a headline in The Sunday Independent. The story beneath said: "You don't often sense misery at a major sporting occasion but it was present at Murrayfield yesterday. You only had to be Irish to feel it. For the ailing team touched a new low and emerged from a dull match the authors of noth-

Mick Doyle, who was Ireland's coach when they won the Triple Crown in 1985 (and when they were whitewashed in the championship the following season) wrote in the same paper: "This was the worst ever [display] by an Irish side." I have news for him. I have seen worse Irish teams than this but I have never seen such a limp one. The traditional Irish fire was absent. They seemed browbeaten and uncertain of themselves, which are hardly irish characteristics.

By Tuesday, feelings had quietened and the remarks of Moss Keane were all the more welcome for being so honest and low key. "Our flair for rugby has been curbed by our obsession to follow every one else," said Keane, another former international. "Doing the unusual, as was our instinct. had a more unsettling effect on the opposition. Where has the old fashioned footrush gone?

PROPERTY

Working on fitness is fine and essential but when you have players going out to play to a sterile, pre-ordained pattern foreign to their traditions then you are getting nowhere."

Rugby is of relatively little importance in the scheme of sports in Ireland, a comfortable fourth behind Gaelic football, hurling and soccer. Only an estimated 12,500 play rugby compared with 30 times as

many in England, for example.
"We used to close the gap
that existed between us and other countries in three ways, said Slattery. "First, we picked our best players. Then we were better organised, and thirdly we gave 100 per cent for 80

John Hopkins analyses the sorry state of the men in green

minutes. We are doing none of these now and we are showing our lack of resources."

The Irish always seemed to be larger than life - on and off the field. Seared into my memory and liver is the effect of a Sunday spent in the company of Keane during the 1977 Lions' tour of New Zealand. For Keane it was a day of rest, which meant that for everyone else it was anything but. No wonder he was nicknamed Rentastorm. He roamed the hotel press-ganging players and journalists to join him for a drink. He came across me just before midday, as far as my memory goes, which is not very far, for obvious reasons. I escaped to my bed barely vertical and far from sober after a mere eight hours at the court

of King Moss. A few months later Keane was the host during a day in Dublin. The liver received a second battering but what sticks more clearly in the mind is his driving rather than his drinking. Cackling with laughlever in his massive left hand, the Kerryman piloted his way around the fair city in a screech of tyres and a blur of

"Are you an ambier gambler," he roared again and again as he diced with the traf-fic lights. "I am."

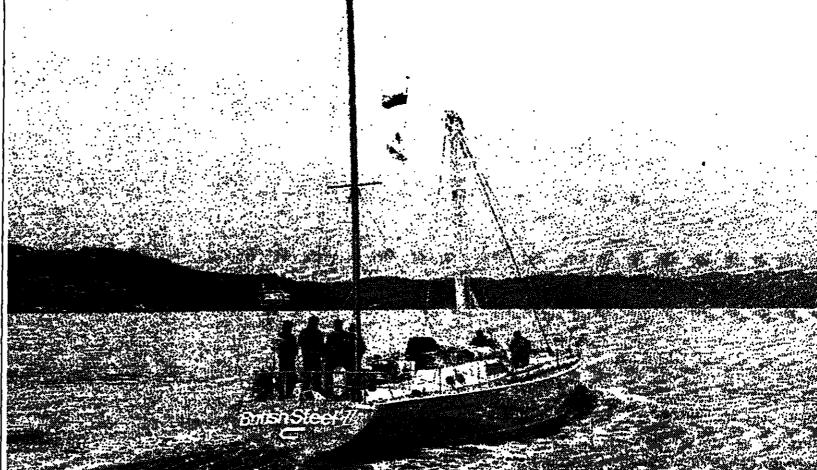
lt was around men like Keane and Willie-John McBride and Syd Millar, all of whom had voracious appetites for life and rugby, that Ireland built their pack in days gone by. Keane was once advised that the second row forward playing opposite him was soft and a punch would be a good manoeuvre. "At the first lineout I bopped him one," Keane recalled. "Then bash! He hit me straight back. I thought to myself: 'Bejabbers, I hit the wrong man'."

Men like Keane have disappeared - at least for the time being. "We used to have players in key positions who always did the right thing," said Noel Murphy, the Ireland manager. "We have not got men like this any more."

I have a solution. The IRFU should look at - I am sorry for mentioning this word, and I will wash my mouth with scap - but what they should look at is soccer in Ireland. Some years ago it was in as much disarray as rugby is now.
With the sort of ingenuity

and disregard for convention that the Irish professional golfers showed by staging the Irish Masters in Portugal, the soccer authorities called in the best man to become team manager. Jack Charlton, an Englishman who lived in Northumberland.

Charlton revitalised the national team, taking them to the late stages of the World Cup finals in Italy in 1990. One ssible candidate to revitalise the Irish rugby team is the brilliant French coach Pierre Villepreux. He could be found a job teaching English or French in a school in Dublin. Are the Irish big enough to make such a break with their traditions?



Yachting

Test of mettle for crew of Steel

HAY Blyth was in ebullient form. It takes an experienced observer to distinguish between this mode and the normally effervescent Blyth, but it was thus. "Wow, isn't that fantastic," he shouted as a crudely ugly racing yacht docked beneath the green hills

of Hobart, Tasmania. British Steel II had her boom jury-rigged as a mast, and a second spar (borrowed from a much smaller yacht) in place as a mizzen. Aboard, her 14

crew looked much thinner than when they had left Rio on November 15. British Steel had been dismasted halfway between Cape Horn and New Zealand, 2,500 miles from land in the iceberg-strewn wastes of the Southern Ocean. It is as far from land and outside assistance as it is possible to be.

Her voyage to rejoin the other nine yachts racing around the world in the British Steel Challenge, created by Blyth to give fare-paying amateurs a taste of world-class ocean sailing, has become a classic of ingenuity and guts.

Skipper Richard Tudor, 32, had already become renowned as probably the hardest-driving of the 10 professionals helming the 67ft steel yachts. After winning the training race around Solent-Rio leg, Tudor's boat was favourite to take overall victory in the 28,000-mile epic which will call at Cape Town before finishing back in the

Solent during late May. "It's been such an unbelievable experience. The shock and fear and then teamwork to survive. I'm not sure that dismasting isn't more of an achievement than winning the race, said crew member Louise Broadbent of Leeds, as the bat-

tered yacht moored up. Once safely alongside Constitution Wharf, where Tasmania's unfortunate convicts once landed, the stories began to emerge of the rough, freezing

night when the 90ft mast fractured just above deck level and toppled overboard - a month from the nearest land. A stainless steel bottlescrew, a component that has now failed on almost every other yacht in the fleet, disintegrated and left the spar without its main support-

ing wire.
"I thought we'd hit an iceberg," recalled Marcus Gladwell, who was in his bunk directly below the broken fit-

Keith Wheatley sees a dismasted yacht berth safely in Tasmania

"The first noise of metal exploding woke me up, then came the banging of the mast against the hull.

"If the yacht had been made of anything except steel I'm sure the rig would have bashed through the side and sunk us." In the dark and confusion it took nearly an hour, using massive bolt-cutters, to cut the wires holding the damaged mast to the yacht and let in sink 7,000ft to the ocean floor.

After that came the realisation that from being leaders of the 28,000-mile race and favourites to win, British Steel II was effectively out of the hunt. "Some people were fairly point we just thought about

depressed in the aftermath," said Tudor, going on to explain the irony of the incident.

"At the time we weren't pushing the boat hard. We were nicely placed just behind the leader Nuclear Electric and there was no need. Had we been pushing I could have forgiven myself for the damage, said Tudor, a former professional sailmaker from Pwllheli. His only similar accident was losing the mast of his Mirror dinghy when he was eight.

Although he is shrewd enough to conceal it, Tudor is bitterly disappointed that a design or manufacturing fall-ure has dashed his hopes of glory. In a shed adjoining Constitution Wharf lie the masts from three other yachts, all seriously damaged from the

Andrew Roberts, technical director for the race and virtual designer of everything aboard except the hulls themselves, is certain that metal fatigue caused the same component to fail on eight of the 10 vachts. Certainly there are some expensive bills waiting to be apportioned and insurance assessors, spar-makers and metallurgists can be found holding animated conversa-tions in odd corners of Hobart.

Without the full mast and sails to balance the yacht, British Steel II began a wicked corkscrewing motion through the 40ft waves. "From that survival, not racing," said crew member Yvonne Flatman, a trading standards officer in

"civilian" life. The ultra-competitive Tudor rejected the easier notion of running with the prevailing winds to Chile. He was determined to reach Hobart in time to participate in the final two legs of the race. British Steel II used its motor to reach Hobart, disqualifying itself from that

leg and the race overall. We knew we were deep in iceberg country and we didn't have enough food or fuel to do anything except sail out of it. It was my decision to stay in the race and head for Tasmania," said Tudor. A spare mast has been flown out for British Steel II. The others are being repaired with new aluminium

length of the original spar.
"Of course I'm surprised at the damage we've suffered. I honestly thought the boats were built more substantially than that - if only because I'm responsible for the repair bills," said Blyth, who created and owns the race concept.

"But we've got them all here safely and that's a huge relief." Not least because next month Blyth is expected to announce plans for a successor race in even bigger yachts with more competitors. Against considerable scepticism he has proved that a taste for adventure and danger lurks within even the most deskbound of us.

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Ford gets it right first time

got its most important new model in years right first time. Two weeks ago, I wrote here that if the Mondeo's on-road performance lived up to its paper promise, it ought to breathe new life into Ford. But I wondered out loud if, like quite a few new Fords in the past, it might have some aggravating drawback that would put me off.

It has not. I judged the left-hand drive 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0 litre Mondeo saloons and hatchbacks I tried in southern France last week well able to look rivals like the Vauxhall Cavalier (Opel Vectra), Nissan Primera, Toyota Carina E and Peugeot 405 in the eye. Owners or users of the vet-

eran rear-wheel driven Sierra that Mondeo replaces may well find it so much better that they will feel it has moved up half a class. As multi-valve engines go,

those powering the Mondeo are good without being outstanding. One can say the same of the standard fivespeed gearbox. But what makes Mondeo shine is the thoroughness with which Ford has tackled noise, vibration and barshness. All the cars felt reassuringly

solid and throughout two days of energetic driving were squeak and rattle free. I started with an entry-model 1.6 litre. At around 130 kph (81 mph) on the autoroute all right, just a bit more there was barely a whisper of

soft hum from the engine. Away from the autoroute's smooth tarmac the ride was supple, shock-absorbent and quiet. (Mondeo is shorter than Sierra, but its wheelbase is longer and the track wider). The medium low profile 65 series tyres did not roar on coarse surfaces, nor thump when hitting potholes. Four up

Stuart Marshall test drives the new Mondeo and is impressed

and with a boot full of luggage, it handled with elegance and ease. Power assistance, standard on all Mondeos, takes away steering effort but you still know what kind of sur-

face the tyres are on.

The 90 horsepower 1.6 litre engine spins freely up to high revolutions in the gears but pulls smoothly in fifth from under 30 mph (50 kmh). The 1.8 litre, 115 horsepower Ghia I tried next felt much peppier, a 2.0 litre, 136 horsepower model more muscular still. The 1.8 and 2.0 litre Mondeos were enjoyable, even stimulating, to drive on the uncrowded D roads of the Var. There were times when I convinced myself the 2.0 litre could easily have been an Audi or BMW. But the 1.6 litre rode best; the least powerful, narrowest-tyred

models always do.

short, downswept bounet and the driving position is fine. The Ghia's soft leather seats with power adjustment could have come from a £30,000 car. So does the Mondeo have no flaws at all? Not quite. A sixfooter finds it difficult to be comfortable in the rear seat because head and legroom are meagre unless the person up front is short-legged. The overall gearing of the 2.0 litre els - only 20 mph/32 kmh per 1,000 rpm - is too low. Of course, it makes for great flexibility in town and vigorous acceleration in fourth or fifth

Visibility is good over the

more than 4,000 rpm? There is no rear-seat problem in the spacious Mondeo estate because the cushion is lower. I shall be surprised if the 2.0 litre cars do not go on sale with revised gearing. Unquestionably, Mondeo is off to a good start. There will

but who wants to cruise a

2.0 litre car on an autoroute at

be sighs of relief at Ford from March onward as it begins eroding the gains General Motors (Vauxhall and Opel), Rover and Peugeot have made at the ageing Sierra's expense The latest Escort has persnaded some Sierra buyers to nicely furnished and more

modern car of equal performance. Mondeo may do the same with Scorpio users.

Imagine a really posh model with the US designed and made 2.5 litre V6 engine, electropically-controlled automatic transmission and tractrim and air conditioning. It would match or exceed Scorpio standards of luxury and performance without the bulk and it is coming before long. So, too, are the four-wheel

drive models, the turbo-charged and intercooled 1.8 diesels and the estate cars. All we need to know are the prices, due for release just before the Mondeo's public debut at Geneva in March. If they are as keen as whispers suggest, Ford's recovery prospects will be brighter than seemed possible a few months

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Unsung rag trade heroes

NYONE with more than a passing interest in fashion will know the identity of the British Designer of the Year. But the clothing exporter of the year? Who is that? Media and public interest is invariably design-led, yet high fashion designers turning over much more than £1m are the exception in the UK.

Clothing companies notching serious export success tend to be far less glamorous. Names from the heady realms of design, such as nostalgic Mulberry, menswear genius Paul Smith and cashmere leaders Pringle, have been winners but, more likely. are purveyors of men's duffle coats, inexpensive cotton separates or frilly children's wear. Yet these kind of companies are the main contributors to a total annual UK clothing export figure of more than £2bn. In spite of

Avril Groom on the back room stars of the UK fashion world

increasing - albeit more slowly than in 1990.

Such unsung heroes of British fash-ion had their moment of glory this week, at the 1992 Apparel Export Awards. Organised by the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, an industry-funded body which promotes clothing exports by helping firms exhibit abroad and linking them with potential agents and buyers, the awards, which I helped to judge, were presented at a gala dinner in London by the council's president, the Princess Royal, who, with her no-nonsense approach to glamour, is

the perfect royal patron for this cause. Choosing eight winners from 74 nominees was serious business for a

the recession, the figure is still judging panel drawn from journalism,

industry and banking.

To be eligible, a company needed to have achieved continuing export growth over the past three years, if possible to have increased its workforce and to have a clear strategy for future growth. This was not easy last year and, several firms where exports grew quickly up until 1991, reported a

Eventual winners varied from traditional outerwear firms to a glovemaker and a small-scale designer of unmarket cashmere with no formal training. Some have always pursued export markets while others have only recently altered their strategy, faced with a shrinking home market, to tackle them. Many are family-run and all share the conviction that, apart from the need for high-quality products efficiently delivered, successful exporting depends on personal contacts with, and visits to, the customers. The good designs displayed by this year's winners suggest that overseas buyers increasingly recognise that British fashion is not just about tradition but about innovative design that is also saleable.

We spotlight four of the winners: Ghost, womenswear winner, is recognised as a high-fashion leader, specialising in soft, flowing shapes made from piece-dyed, Italian-woven viscose crepe which gains its character from the shrinkage induced by the dyeing process. Innovative styling has recently given the label a high media profile. The spring collection was shown in neo-hippy, grunge style but individual pieces remain comfortably

London-based Ghost has increased its export sales over the past three years from £1.3m to almost £2m they now account for 70 per cent of its total. The firm's founder and managing director, Tanya Sarne, oversees every aspect, creating the range with designer Andrea Sargeant, who lives in Italy, and a UK-based team.

Married in the 1970s to the singer Mike Sarne, Tanya says she learnt then to juggle limited amounts of money. With stylish commercial acumen she has increased the turnover from £250,000 in 1985 to about £2.75m. The US now accounts for one-third of total business, followed by Scandina via. She says: "The secret is personalities - getting agents and customers who like and understand the clothes. which are very individual - and maintaining contact. We give an initial reply to any communication

within one day and we make on-time,

complete deliveries". Dents Gloves, accessories winner, has taken exporting seriously since the arrival of managing director John Roberts three years ago. The 200-yearold company had lost its way promotionally, in spite of high-quality prod-ucts, and was suffering from a fall-off in the home market. Roberts redirected the company from contract work to export, investing heavily in high-quality brochures and packaging, taking a high profile abroad at trade exhibitions and producing design innovations such as bright silk

linings to raise the fashion image. The result has been an increase in exports from 14 per cent to 70 per cent of total sales. Italy, itself a byword for top-quality leather, provides the best market. Roberts is very critical of lack of government support for the "Companies get help with their first few foreign shows but that is quite inadequate to build a new market which is very expensive for small companies," he says. "It's typical British short-term thinking." The support to which he refers comes from the Department of Trade and industry and amounts to about 50 per cent of the cost of a 15 sq m exhibition stand at the exhibitor's first three appearances in any one country, or five in certain cases.

The lingerie section needs retitling as the winner - H G Porter and Co is the first men's nightwear company to win in the awards' seven-year history. Chairman Arthur Porter, the

founder's grandson, has made a "con-certed and strategic effort on export to Europe since 1989, preparing for the single market. Before that, our exporting was piecemeal, relying on chance personal contacts."

The Strabane-based firm was founded as a shirtmakers, going into nightwear through restructuring in 1965. "We had relatively little specialist competition so there was a niche, says Porter. "Since then I've become ssed with pyjamas."

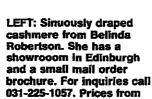
The results of extensive market research in Europe led to updating a traditional British look and seeing each country as a regional variant, not a different market. Exports have almost doubled in two years and he has taken on 30 extra employees. He credits his workforce, the BKCEC and the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board.

Belinda Robertson wins the Natwest Award for small businesses with her £440.000 sales of which almost 90 per cent are exported. Her cashmere design firm started almost by accident when she modelled knitwear and thought the designs boring, sketched some ideas of her own and found she could sell them.

She moulds and drapes cashmere so it looks more like woven fabric, a style with upmarket success especially in the US. She says the secret is "all in the contacts through them I show abroad privately, which is what top-level customers like." She also finds her Edinburgh base an advantage -"customers are delighted to visit because they can take in a little golf and tourism.







ABOVE RIGHT: Best of British leather from Dents. Stockists Include: Selfridges, Harrods and Owen Owen.

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HERE IS something include spiced lemon, orange irresistible about with ginger, grapefruit and eld-Seville oranges. The name of them, and the heady scent released when a fingernail is run across the and lime with tequila.

skin, are as brilliant as summer sunshine, just the spirit-lifter needed to dispel the gloom of dank-dark January. At this time of year, unlike high summer, the idea of holing up in the kitchen for a jam session is not unappealing. The cosy warmth is inviting and there is an undeniable glow of

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making your own preserves. What has become my standard marmalade recipe which is made with a little less sugar than traditional marmalade – is given below.

satisfaction to be gained from

If time is short, it may make more sense to buy marmalade and to enjoy more immediate returns from the purchase of a few Seville oranges by turning them into a sharp and zesty

pudding for Sunday lunch. Wendy Brandon is an ace marmalade maker, from whom I am as happy to buy as to make my own. Her range is wide, using citrus fruits of all kinds and a variety of additional flavourings. They erflower, satsuma, kumquat, orange with molasses and rum, pink grapefruit with campari,

Her marmalades come with a choice of sugar content (the traditional ratio, reduced sugar, and with no added sugar at all). They are stocked by a few select shops and can be bought by mail order: Wendy Brandon, Felin Wen, Boncath, Dyfed SA37 0JR. Tel: 0239-841568. Fax: 0239-841746.

Another commercial offering REDUCED SUGAR MARMALADE of which I am especially fond is Twinings' "Earl Grey" marmalade. Although high in sugar, this is delectable, made with bergamot, that most aromatic of bitter fruit. Its zesty oil gives good-quality Earl Grey tea its characteristic fragrance. It is a marmalade I will go a long way to buy, which is just

as well, since it involves a pilgrimage to central London - it isavailable only to personal shoppers at Twinings shop in the Strand, London WC2. Nowhere near so distinctive

but chunky, dark and good is Duerr's extra thick-cut, traditional marmalade, which has the advantage of being stocked



by grocers and supermarkets

(makes enough to fill eight jars) Organic fruit, or at any rate unsprayed, is desirable for marmalade-making and any other recipe that uses the zest 4 lb Seville oranges; four lem-

ons; 6 lb granulated or pres-

erving sugar.
Squeeze the juice from all the fruits into a preserving pan. Put the pips and the membrane remaining in the citrus shells into a loosely-tied, butter muslin bag. Shred the peel coarsely or finely as you like it, and add it to the pan with the bag of pips and 8 pt cold water.

Cook over very low heat for two to three hours until the peel is so tender that it can be squashed between finger and thumb, and the liquid has reduced by about half.

Remove the bag of pips and membrane (squeeze it with a wooden spoon in a sieve so all the pectin-rich juices drip back into the pan) and discard it.

Add the sugar and stir over very low heat until it is fully dissolved, then cook at a rolling boil until setting point is reached - when a thermometer will read 220°F (104°C). This usually takes 10 to 15 min-

stand for 10 minutes or so, then stir to distribute the peel evenly in the jelly, and pot in the usual way.

LITTLE SEVILLE

PUDDINGS

Skim, let the marmalade

(serves 6) For those who want to enjoy the zesty scent and lovely taste of bitter oranges without the labour of marmalade-making, here is a good pudding for Sunday lunch. How many oranges you will need depends on their size and juiciness: six is a fair

8 fl oz freshly-squeezed Seville orange juice and several pinches of finely grated zest; 6 oz caster sugar; 3 oz softened butter; four large eggs; 2 oz flour; 8 fl oz milk; fromage frais or whipped

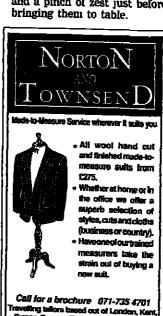
cream for serving. Beat the butter and sugar with an electric whisk until creamy. Beat in the orange juice, gradually, then the egg yolks, one at a time. Do not worry if the mixture looks curdled. Beat in the flour, then the milk, adding it slowly.

Whisk the egg whites to snowy peaks and fold the Seville orange juice mixture into them, adding pinches of zest as you do so.

Ladle the mixture into six individual soufflé dishes which have been lightly buttered. Stand them in a roasting tin and add enough hot water to come halfway up the sides of the dishes.

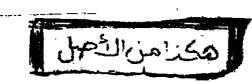
Bake at 350°F-375°F (180°C-190 °C) gas mark 4-5, for about 40 minutes until puffed up, coloured and softly set. The surface of the puddings will crack as they cook and the mixture becomes light and spongy on top and creamy underneath

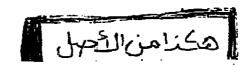
Little Seville puddings are best to eat about 10 minutes after they come out of the oven. They sink a little as they cool, so dress them with dollops of fromage frais or cream and a pinch of zest just before bringing them to table.



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HOW TO SPEND IT

Designs on your purse

NYONE WHO wants to dispel mid-winter gloom after the January sales should head for London's Montpelier Street, where Bonhams is mounting its second Decorative Arts Today selling exhibition. From January 25 to February

7, Bonhams is offering a rare opportunity to see under one roof the work of leading British designer-makers - no fewer than 140 of them this year. Most is for the home: furniture, lighting, rugs, wallhangings, glass, ceramics, tableware, silver and beautifully bound books, but it also

includes jewellery. When Bonhama decided to sell exciting new work in this way last year, the gamble paid off. Paul Whitfield, deputy chairman, said: "First in at the door was the chairman of another leading London auction house - last out was Mick Jagger, who had bought 18 works." This year's exhibition

promises to be richer, bigger and even more diverse. As soon as work is sold, it is replaced by another piece by the same designer. All exhibits have been designed and made in the 1990s and, after last year's success, most of the designers have created work

Peta Levi takes a look from the inside at a sale of decorative arts

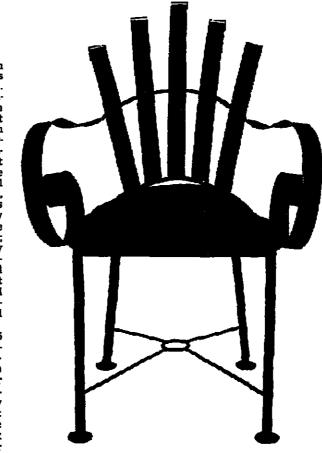
specifically for the exhibition. For instance, Senior Carmichael has made a backgammon table in American cherry, with a concealed playing surface and holding coloured sycamore stones and leather shakers and dice (£3,500), and two matching chairs (£985 each). Glen Hinton has made a hall table in carved wood, patinated copper and laminated glass (£1,800), Martin Grierson an elegant drop-leal table in ripple sycamore with ebony stringing and six chairs (£7,750), while Bob Crooks is showing his first glass chandelier (£1,860) and Alan Caiger-Smith his one-off pleces – sadly the last chance to buy his new work in London, because his Aldermaston Pottery closes in May.

All the designers were encouraged to produce objects that are practical as well as decorative. Dining tables and chairs, coffee tables, mirrors, side tables, lamps, screens, candlesticks and coffee cups are among the objects featured. Architect Jack Schneider has designed a striking dressing table, in burl poplar and zebrano veneer and lacquered MDF, with a large, round bevelled mirror (£3,560), while John Whittle has made an unusual bedroom wardrobe, incorporating blue ash veneer (£1.005).

The exhibition sets out to show the wealth of design talBritain today. It also illustrates the great diversity of styles. There is finely crafted woodbased furniture deriving from the Arts and Crafts Movement by designers such as Alan Peters, Ashley Cartwright, Jeremy Broun and Richard Williams; sculptural, minimalist furniture by Ron Arad, whose surprisingly comfortable steel chair has a flexible, woven, polished steel tug which rolls up to form a foot rest; Danny Lane's dramatic two-metre glass table with six legs; painted furniture by Tony Isseyegh showing the Bloomsbury Group's influence; and more eclectic and flamboyant styles, from Regency-inspired metal work by Adrian Reynolds to a Baroque-influenced candlestick by Felicity Evans.

The price range is from £15 to more than £12,000. Collectors' items such as John Makepeace's library chair carved in burr elm with pivoted leather lecturns for reading and writing (£11,850), an exquisitely ide treasure chest by Robert Ingham (£3,100) and a delicate cloissonné enamelled egg box (£1,360) by Maureen Edgar should not deter less well-heeled prospective buyers.

There are wooden bangles from £15 by Hayley Smith, fine, wooden bowls by Bert Marsh from £25 (turned wood is an increasingly accessible collect-



a piece by another exhibitor, Steve Howlett, was recently bought for the Sainsbury Collection) and silver rings with bright artificial stones by Tina

Engell from £100. There are also hand-printed and painted cushions by Neil Bottle from £75, ties from £32, colourful anodised aluminium plates and bowls by Patricia Hamilton from £35, sensuous coloured jugs by Marianne Buus from £90 and ceramics from £40 by Chris Carter (the Sainsbury Collection has bought some of his work, too) and Sarah Perry (who was taught by Lucie Rie and Hans Coper).

The designers were asked to keep their prices low and many have produced some particularly good buys. Bev and Mark Houlding, who make fantastic painted and lacquered screens, have offered to make an edition of four screens, painted on one side only, for £2,000, half their usual price. Camilla Meddings, one of a number of young designers using old gilding and lacquering techniques in a contemporary manner, is exhibiting a mirror (£140)

which depicts Artemis and Apollo, using tarnished copper and gold leaf. There is exceedingly good

Above: Seating Egyptian-style. A painted hardwood chair by

Above left: Curving metal chair

scroli arms by Adrian Reynolds,

established designers including Noel Dyrenforth, the leading contemporary British batik exponent (£350), and the much respected weaver, Peter Collingwood, whose linen and steel hanging costs only £220. Also, a Richard La Trobe Bateman child's highchair in cleft ash is going for only £395! Some reasonably priced bound books are being exhibited. Jan Lindsay produces bookbindings with blank pages

so that you can create your

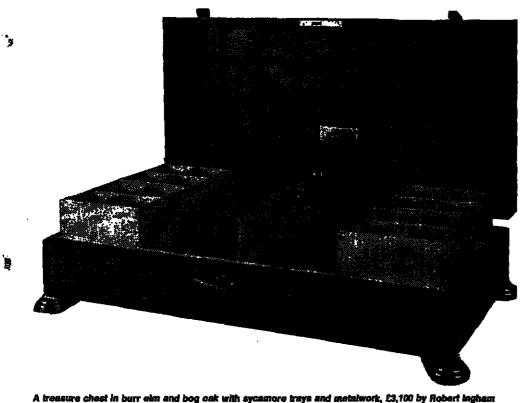
own book; the bookbindings (£390), made from oak boards

value in wallhangings from

with white goatskin thongs, are based on early 12th and 13th century manuscripts.

For anyone considering commissioning contemporary furniture in 1993. Decorative Arts Today provides an opportunity to compare the work of more than 60 furniture designers. Bonhams will happily make the introductions. Apart from the well-known names mentioned above, Fred Baier, Ronald Carter, Rupert Williamson, Toby Winteringham, Mark Brazier Jones and Tom Dixon are exhibiting, as well as many unknown recent graduates.

Peta Levi is curator of the Decorative Arts Today exhibition; weekdays 11am to 6pm; weekends midday to 6pm.





FOOD AND DRINK

There's still lunch out there

Nicholas Lander considers the first responses to the FT's 'lunch for a fiver' scheme

end FT's Lunch for a Fiver has made me feel like a restaurateur Initially, I wondered if it been priced too low for restaurants to offer the right menus. Were there enough restaurants to satisfy demand? Was I, as one leading restaurateur wondered, sending out false signals about the financial state of the restaurant trade? The initial reactions, reported last

. . . .

40.00

. .

RGANISING the Week-

Saturday, were encouraging, but any concerns finally evaporated on Monday. A financial journalist from a rival newspaper phoned to say that she had returned satisfied, in the company of a former cabinet minister, from her £5 lunch at Frederick's, in London, N1. Her £5 menu had been excellent and served with the same attention to detail as the restaurant's normal lunchtime menu at three times the price.
A neighbour, finance director of a

scheme to take a number of his staff out for a £5 lunch as a thank you gift. Other restaurants have also reported a marked increase in the number of larger bookings as a result of the lower unit price being

. Martin Lam at Ransome's Dock, London, SW11, said that on Monday lunch he had served 34 customers compared with an average of 20 on Mondays and that the per capita spend had been £18. On Tuesday he served 54 customers - this surprised him since the restaurant can only seat 50.

he was taking advantage of the fully booked on Monday, a day make a booking specifying that you taste the Bordeaux first growths wine worth at least £250, to be aucwhen usually, according to general manager David Pantin, it is never more than half full. Its menu was a model of what a creative chef such as Herbert Berger can do for £5. A salad of mussels and baby clams with coriander pesto and balsamic vinegar was followed by braised lamb shank with garlic confit and root vegetables. They had to turn customers away the following day and are busy converting tables normally used for pre-lunch drinks into

dining tables to satisfy demand. One of the reasons for the success of "Lunch for a Fiver" has been its A neighbour, finance director of a large public company, told me that the Café Royal in Regent Street, London, W1, was choose your restaurant, phone to rare enough to have the chance to Tickets cost a donation of a case of

are coming for the FT menu - two courses for £5 - and arrive on time. Remember it applies to weekdays only and finishes on Friday January

A number of restaurants are already full for the whole period but there is always the possibility of a cancellation. And, like any sale bargain, a little patient hunting will make the eventual prize more satisfying. Try to be a bit flexible with your timing - eating closer to 12 ville-Barton 1985 and Pichon-Lalthan 1pm - and you may stand a better chance of a table.

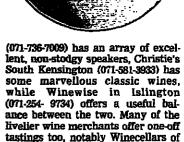
ville-Barton 1985 and Pichon-Lalande 1982. There is a catch, but if wine collectors were honest with

together, particularly from such a tage as 1982. But, at an exception-ally luxurious event planned for Wednesday, February 3 at the Savoy Hotel in London, the pre-dinner tasting will include not just this line-up but six Corton-Charle-magnes and six de luxe champagnes. Suitable palate sharpening for the dinner and accompanying wines as sumptuous as Chx Léothemselves and their cellars, it is

tioned by Sotheby's on April 21 in glamorous and highly priced vin- aid of the Tommy's Campaign for research into fetal health. More information from Susie Roberts on 071-620-2654.

> The Gulf is not the most obvious place in the world to learn about wine, but the Wine and Spirit Education Trust, has been running courses out there this month for Inchcape Middle East.

> The WSET (tel: 071-236-3551) is the official body for formal wine trade education, but there are many other approaches to liquid evening classes to choose from, even in London.The Wine School of Fulham



Wandsworth (081-871-2668) and La

Vigneronne of South Ken

(071-589-6113).



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Bahn Thai, 21e Frith Street, London W1 Balzac, 4 Wood Lane, London W12	Tel; 081 743 6787
Balzac, 4 Wood Lane, London W12 Beauchamps, 23/25 Leadenhall Market, London EC3	Tel: 071 621 1331
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Calé Rouge, Unit 209 Williams Bridge Road, London SW15 2NA	Tel: 071 371 7600
Caté Rouge, 46/48 James Sued, London SW3	Tel: 081 342 9797
Caté Rouge, 855 Furnam Adad, Lighgate Village, London N6	Tel: 071 433 3404
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Sonny's, 3 Carlton Street, Hockley, Nottingham	Tel: 0602 473041
Sonny's, 94 Church Road, London SW13	Tel: 081 748 0393
Stephen Bull Bistro, 71 St. John Street, London EC1	Tel: 071 490 1750
The Café Royal, (Brasserie) 68 Regent Street, London W1	Tel: 071 437 9090
The Lindsay House, 21 Romilly Street, London W1	Tel: 071 439 0450
The Marsh Goose, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucastershire	Tel: 0608 52111
The Vintners Rooms, 87 Giles Street, Leith, Edinburgh	Tel: 031 554 6767
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Willoughby's, 26 Penton Street, N1	Tel: 071 833 1380
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Zoe, 3-5 Barratt Street, London W1	1et: U/1 224 1122



Experiment to lyricism

number of poets in the US. About one, T.S. Eliot, there can be no doubt as to his international reputation. Ezra Pound's significance, too, is without question despite his less appealing persona. Robert Frost's poetry was received with acclaim in Britain long before he was recognised in his own country.

But there were others, less well understood outside the US, who are also of considerable importance. Wallace Stevens and William Carlos Williams are of this number. Then there were Edwin Arlington Robinson, Carl Sandburg, Robinson Jeffers, Marianne Moore, John Crowe Ransom and Hart Cranc. Of this latter group the most provocative was the son of a New England Congregational minister. His name was Edward Estlin Cummings and he was born in 1894 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Cummings had been publishing poems since his early 20s but he did not become widely known until the appearance of

E E CUMMINGS: COMPLETE POEMS 1904-1962 edited by George J Firmage Liveright & W. W. Norton £33. 1,102 pages

his prose work The Enormous Room. This savage attack on authority was the result of being imprisoned by the French in the First World War for something he wrote in his letters while he was serving as a member of the Norton Harjes Ambulance Unit.

The Enormous Room sent readers back to Cummings's first book. Tulips and Chimneys, published in 1923. Some of the "Songs" in Tulips, like "all in green went my love riding", have a fin de siècle flayour, but "Chimneys" contains such now-well-known language experiments as "In Justspring" and "Buffalo Bill's/defunct". There are also attacks on "Cambridge ladies who live in furnished souls" and who would not find at all acceptable such poems as "'kitty', sixteen, 5'1, white, prostitute" and the sardonic "Humanity i love

If in the early poems there was a too obvious desire to épater les bourgeois it was evident by the 1930s that Cummings had something more serious on his mind. In ViVa and No Thanks we see him pushing forward the boundaries of communication attempting to use words as he did paint on canvas - as in the notorious grasshopper poem ("r-p-o-p-h-e-s-s-a-g-r"). In New Poems and 50 Poems

Hearst and is that most

Stylish thoughts

COULD die reading Joan Didlon, It would be the perfect way to go - slipping effortlessly into the deep, dark spiral of the long goodbye while gorging on the unimprovable sentences with which Joan Didion constructs

this short passage: "I was 10 years old when 'the atomic age', as we called it then, came forcibly to the world's attention. At the time the verbs favoured for use with 'the atomic age' were 'dawned' or 'ushered in', both of which implied an upward trend to events. I recall being told that the device which ended World War II was 'the size of a lemon' (this was not true) and that the University of California had helped build it (this was true). In the opinion of her publisher. Sentimental Journeus is

Joan Didion's "latest foray into the ailing American psyche", a world of disconnectedness that Didion lacerates with the "severe, crystalline beauty" of

What the publisher does not emphasise is that most of the essays here are warmed-up potatoes: they appeared first in magazines. Nevertheless, not everyone is a devoted reader of The New York Review of Books or The New Yorker, let alone New West, so the publisher is performing a service.

The collection does not start well. Its opening section is entitled "Washington" and contains an essay largely about Nancy Reagan - "Her social skills, like those of many women trained in the insular life of the motion picture community, were strikingly undeveloped" - that is strikingly second-hand, as well as substandard. But then the focus moves to California, where Didion is more at home. Curiously, even this section opens with a dud, Girl of the Golden

N THE 60 years between 1870 and 1930 there extreme modernist experi-emerged a remarkable ments and developed a new and more intimate form of lyricism seen at its best in "this little bride & groom" and the powerful and moving "my father moved through dooms of

> One of the most striking things about him is his defiant individuality in an age of conformity - his readiness to attack what he saw to be the ills of society ("a salesman is an it that stinks Excuse", "a politician is an arse upon/ which everyone has sat except a man"). In Cummings's intro-duction to the Collected Poems of 1938 he said "The poems to come are for you and for me and are not for mostpeople". But to be uncivilly disobedient like a bohemian Thoreau is one thing. What about the calibre of Cumming's verse? R.P. Blackmur counted

> "flower" 48 times in Tulips and Chimneys, concluding tartly that for Cummings the word must contain "an almost unlimited variety and extent of meaning". Any attempt to evaluate Cummings's contribution to poetry must therefore take into account the fact that he does not always exploit the fullest resources of the English language. Like Henry Miller in prose he was outre, shocking sticking out his tongue at what H.L. Mencken called the "booboisie". On the other hand it cannot be denied that life

leaps from his best poems.

Cummings is least successful when he is being self-consciously hard-boiled, as in Poem, or Beauty Hurts Mr Vinal" or "she being Brand/new". He is far better in his ironic comments on war like "my sweet old etcetera" and "plato told/him" and in his ability to catch the flavour of low-life speech, as in "ygU-Duh". But he is best of all in such tender and unsentimental lyrics as "the little horse is newlY/Born". Simplicity has its virtues and although Cummings's poems might seem a little contrived today, there is a freshness about them which makes the reader return again and again with a sense of

George J. Firmage has revised, corrected and expanded the Complete Poems of 1973 using the original manuscripts and getting the typography right. He has also added poems from Cummings's Harvard years and from the Dial Papers, and his translations of Horace. It is all here, and although one cannot say with one's hand on one's heart that it adds a great deal to our perception of Cummings's quality as a poet, it certainly does not detract from it.

Geoffrey Moore

West, which is about Patty

unusual thing: a completely useless piece of writing. Then things take off. Los Angeles Days is an essay about the five-month 1988 Writers Guild of America strike against her narratives. the Hollywood studios; Fire Consider the perfection of Season about ... the California fire season; and Sentimental Journeys (by now we have moved to New York) about the gang-rape of a white middle-

> as interpreter and as stylist. SENTIMENTAL **JOURNEYS** by Joan Didion HarperCollins £15, 319 pages

class jogger in Central Park in

April 1989. All three show

Didion at her best; as reporter,

The style is crucial. There are better, more industrious reporters than Didion, and her insights are sometimes highly odd. Quite often, I suspect, we are not gaining a privileged view of the hidden springs of American culture, business or politics, but a privileged view of the inside of Joan Didion's head, where billions of exotic chemical connections bearing no relation to reality are completed every second.

But so what? Cosmologists are now tending to the view that there is an infinite number of universes, popping into. and out of, existence all the time. Where Joan Didion came from, no one can imagine; where she is going must be extraordinarily weird. How I

wish I could follow her. Flamingo is reissuing Joan Didion's Slouching Towards Bethlehem and The White Album in paperback at £6.99

> Michael education, a wife and a faith-Thompson-Noel less vocation as a preacher.
>
> But he cannot escape his



A detail from François Boucher's 'The Triumph of Venus', from 'Painting and Sculpture in France, 1700-1789' by Michael Levey (Yale £40). YUP took over the Pelican History of Art series from Penguin last year. This classic 1972 study of 18th-century French

In the beginning

illustration does this book justice, Within, it is a feast. Absorbing and elegantly written, it tells of the origins of life on earth, describes its variety and character, and culminates in a discussion of human nature and the complex traces of humankind's evolutionary past - hence the "shadows" of the title. This is fascinating science gracefully purveyed. The exposition is leisurely, literate and wry, sometimes self-indulgent but always pleasingly so. It is an amazing story masterfully told - easily the best popular introduction to ethology and evolutionary biology now

The story begins at the beginning: with the turbulent mass of dust and gas which spawned the sun and its planets, and prompted the frightening early history of earth. Thereafter the tale unfolds more circumstantially. Its proper commencement lies with the stromatolites, singlecelled organisms living in colonles, whose fossils date back three and a half billion years. From these most ancient of crea-

tures life's perilous history stems. To recount that history Sagan and Druyan have to explain genetics and evolutionary theory. They do it with exemplary lucidity. Thus armed, they give dazzling accounts of insects, snakes, apes, humans, and much besides, aiming to give us a sense of humanity's place in the evolutionary scheme by exhibiting the enormous variety and curlosity of life and the connections which unify its story. "We achieve some measure of adulthood". the authors write, "when we recognise our parents as they really were, without sentimentalising or mythologising, but

HE AMERICAN civil

war may have ended

in the official aboli-

tion of black slavery,

but its chaotic aftermath also

produced a new generation of

human chattels: unwanted

white children who were sold

to the highest bidder for as lit-

tle as \$15. One of these

"bounden boys" was Joan

Brady's grandfather. And in

Theory of War, a fictionalised account of his life and her jour-

ney into the past, she explores

the psychological legacy of

At four, Jonathan Carrick is

bought by Alvab, a sadistic

tobacco farmer, and his dehu-

manised mate, Wify. He is

beaten, tied up, and starved.

They remove his teeth to sell

them for dentures. But the

main focus of Jonathan's inar-

ticulate anger is not the brut-

ish Alvah but his ambitious

son George, who actively pro-

vokes the bounden boy's envy,

setting in motion a lifetime's

At 15, Jonathan runs away.

He eventually finds an

rivalry and resentment.

EITHER the New Ageist also without blaming them unfairly for differences are highly instructive. One dispassion we understand something of our evolutionary inheritance - our biological parentage - we come of age as a

> Every page yields nuggets. The kind of lesson to be learned from biological understanding is well illustrated by the following juxtaposition of facts. Humans find it convenient to geld male domestic animals. "One or two skilled motions of the blade - or a deft bite by a reindeerherding Lapp woman - and the testoster-

SHADOWS OF FORGOTTEN ANCESTORS

by Carl Sagan and Ann Druvan Random Century £17,99, 505 pages

one levels are down to manageable proportions", the authors remark. Only a few males are left intact for breeding purposes. In the wild, when one male is defeated by another in a mating contest and this applies to creatures as different as snakes and apes ~ the conquered male's testosterone levels decline steeply and he slinks away. One major effect, as with domestic animals, is that trouble is kept within bounds.

Parallels must be treated cautiously. Humans and chimpanzees share 99.6 per cent of their active genes, inherited from a common ancestor. By any standards this is close kinship. But the differences outstandingly, language and what language makes possible - are more obvious than the similarities. Still, as the authors show in four fascinating chapters on monkeys and apes, both the parallels and

homans and non-homans into different categories, placed pictures of chimps in the "human" file.

The authors venture some controversial sallies. Sagan is famous for arguing that there must be life elsewhere in the universe. Here he and Druyan make an analogous suggestion: that consciousness might be a more pervasive feature of terrestrial life than most thinkers allow. Even insects, they muse, could have a measure of awareness beyond the merely reflexive. The naturalist Jakob von Uexkull wrote, "When the dog runs, the dog moves its legs. When the sea urchin

runs, the legs move the sea urchin." But Sagan and Druyan are not so sure. After describing the astounding engineering skills of the spider, they remark, "she spins her web now. She reaps the reward later, perhaps much later. Does she know what she's waiting for? Does she dream of succulent moths and foolish mayflies? Or does she wait with her mind a blank?" Such innocuous-seeming questions prompt others that are among philoso-

phy's deepest Analogy presents the authors with their most dangerous temptation. Parallels between animal and human characteristics can enlighten remarkably, but also mislead. Yet although they sometimes tread close to the edge, Sagan and Druyan are alert to the risks, and indeed end the book by warning against them. One is left with a strong sense that what underlies their remarkably skilful and accessible account is high scientific competence. It is this which makes their book so good.

A.C. Grayling | general reader, Dallas again

A fighter come late to greatness

Gillian Tindall considers a new biography of Clemenceau

turns a life into a destiny, imposing definition on a stretch of time which might, at earlier stages. have looked amorphous. With some public figures, however, it is not death itself but a late break, a sudden call to arms or power in old age, that gives a long and varied life its permanent shape. So with Georges

Born in 1841 under France's last king, he was raised as a disciple of Pascal, Michelet and Comte; he became mayor of Montmartre during the Franco-Prussian War and the Commune. A "man of Victor Hugo", he subsequently kept the flame of moderate Republicanism going through the vicissitudes of the Second Empire and the chequered Republic that followed it, battling with the likes of Boulange on the one hand and Ferry and Jaurès on the other and raising an early and decent voice in favour of Dreyfus.

More than once during these decades his career seemed to himself and others all but over "I am unrecognised in my home, betrayed by my friends, dropped by my party, ignored by my electors, suspected by my country...creditors bang on my door...I have nothing,

He was almost 73 at the outbreak of the 1914-18 war, and 76 by the time supreme command passed to him. Poincaré, a long-term jealous colleague and now demoted rival, added to his existing accusations of obstinacy, swashbuckle and "incurable light-mindedness" the charge that Clemenceau was increasingly deaf, portly

and incapable of reasoning. Yet it was in Clemenceau's grey-gloved hands (he had begun to suffer from nervous eczema) that near-defeat was turned into victory and the peace that many of the French would have sought earlier on almost any terms became an Armistice imposed by France

had at last become the "tiger" - as in the lean title of this overweight work. The sharpest image left to the world is of the hunched, moustachioed carnivore crouched between Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson in the treaty hall at Versailles, standing as ever for justice. unwittingly doing his bit to set the scene for another war in which he would act as a model for another fighter-come-lateto-greatness: Winston Churchill.

Of course this odd-shaped life poses problems for the biographer. Gregor Dallas has had to accompany his subject a long way before finally reaching, if not the heart of the tiger, at any rate the heart of the story. At times he loses himself in whole thickets of carefully scrutinised trees while giving his reader little indication of the overall shape of the wood.

When at long last he sweeps out onto the devastated unlands of the First World War battlefields, the panoramic view is impressive. But, just because he knows the way himself, he fails to erect adequate signposts along the route. Although the book's comprehensive and sometimes overtly instructive style suggests that it is intended for the

EATH, says a and again omits pieces of basic French proverb, information that are in fact necessary to the proper under-standing of all this detail.

The events of 1870-71 are described with a wealth of descriptive energy as befits a key period in Clemenceau's life but if you did not know already about the Prussian assault, why the Commune supervened and what it represented, you would be in a complete fog as to what was really going on. And although Dallas quotes Clemenceau's famous put-down after Boulanger shot himself in 1891 on the grave of his mistress ("Il est mort comme il a vécu, en sous-lieutenant") there is, almost unbelievably, no mention of Boulanger's revanchist doctrine on Alsace-Lorraine and thus no adequate discussion of the war scares of 1886 and '87. Similarly, when we reach the

AT THE HEART OF A TIGER: CLEMENCEAU AND HIS WORLD 1841-1929

> by Gregor Dallas Macmillan £25, 598 pages

moment of Jaurès' assassination in 1914 only days before the outbreak of war, no mention has at that point been made of Sarajevo or of "the German menace" at all.

More minor, but more irritating because more specific, is Dallas's failure to tell us, when dealing with Zola's J'Accuse article, that L'Aurore was Clemenceau's own paper. Indeed he has a circumlocutionary. novelist-like way of creeping up to his favourite moments and then pouncing on them. which does not make for coher-

I do not want to sound ungrateful. I have learnt a good deal from this book. whose cognitive scope extends from the dawn of the Revolution to the Fall of Pétain and Laval, and will keep it by me. Like Braudel, who is clearly his master though add unacknowledged, Dallas is at his best when describing events in the context of their settings. His earlier work deals with the peasantry of the Loire (Clemenceau's native land); to accompany him there, or to the northern mines of Zola's Germinal, or to the forest that now covers the destroyed villages near Verdun, is a treat. Perhaps, for his next work, he will chose a topic more rooted in one place and era and so really expand his gifts.



Georges Clemenceau: final victory

Fiction/Lucasta Miller

Relentless introspections

hatred for George, by now a successful politician. After half a century of separation, they are reunited in a final, fatal confrontation. Joan Brady's novel is in part

an act of personal catharsis an attempt to exorcise the emotional scars transmitted down the generations. But it also universalises the individual's story into a symbolic parable of human cruelty and its effects. If the novelist's artistry sometimes gets in the way of the raw experiences she describes, Theory of War still achieves a genuine tragic weightiness.

Gregor von Rezzori's The Orient-Express is another novel about reclaiming the past. Its unnamed narrator, born into the pre-war cultural élite of central Europe, has been an American capitalist since the 1940s. At 65, afflicted by a delayed bout of adolescent facts of the narrator's life.

THEORY OF WAR by Joan Brady Andre Deutsch £14.99, 208 pages

THE ORIENT-EXPRESS by Gregor von Rezzori Chatto & Windus £13.99, 208 pages

COSMO COSMOLINO

by Helen Garner Bloomsbury £13,99, 221 pages angst, he decides to revisit the

scenes of his real adolescence and take a trip on the newly refurbished Orlent-Express. In what follows, the external journey is soon subordinated to an interior monologue which unfolds like a slow

motion dream sequence. Frag-

ments of memory appear and

dissolve - and it is up to the

reader to piece together the

Helen Gamer: honesty of prose

We see the fussy Armenian aunts of his childhood; his first sexual experience on a train

han; his student obsession, fed by an overdose of Nietzsche, with suicide. Central to his present ennui is an inability to forge emotional relationships with women. His thoughts return again and again to his alienated marriage and to his empty encounters with prosti-

Cultural schizophrenic and nostalgia victim, von Rezzori's narrator is suffering from serious depression. At times his sanity seems under pressure. But though his states of mind are minutely recorded, he is too introverted to invite empa. thy.

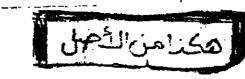
After all this relentless introspection, Helen Garner's ability to present characters actually relating to one another is something of a relief. Her world is low-key and domestic. But Cosmo Cosmolino - which contains two short stories in addition to the title novella -

is wry, individual and stylistically mature.

Garner's characters were young in the 1970s, caught up in the fashionable utopianism of the time. But the communes have long since dispersed, and, looking back, you have to decide whether the intervening years represent a growing up or a loss of innocence.

The two short stories deal with death. In Recording Angel, a man contracts a brain tumour and we witness the effects on his wife and best friend. In A Vigil, a virtual suicide is followed by a hellish crematorium scene. But Cosmo Cosmolino itself is a story of rebirth, in which Janet's buried existence is given a jolt by the arrival of two lodgers, aimless Raymond and Maxine with her batty New Age ecstasies.

Garner has an impressive ability to infect imaginative life into mundane objects, and to focus on an individual character or situation without generalising. Her choice of words is always eloquently precise. And it is the honesty of her prose style, rather than any particular gift for storytelling, which stands out.



هكذامن الأحمل

AN YOU trust a photograph? Do you believe that the camera never lies? Or is a photograph the most dangerous medium of all, apparently a straightforward image but one in fact selected and determined by the photographer's frame of cultural reference, and, as it is reproduced, consciously or unconsciously encouraging a social or ideo logical stance? Two exceptional new books on the history of photography address this question from different, but equally fascinating, backgrounds. Anthropology and Photography traces the creation and use of photographs in early British anthropology, and is worth buying purely for its abundant 19th century photographs of Fijian cannibals, Hiawathastyle chiefs, Congo dancers and the rest. But its point is our changing

evaluation of these photographs, which at the time were seen as objective documentation of inferior, exotic races but now demonstrate the prejudice and cultural conditioning of the age. So a soft-focus Samoan woman from the 1890s, her naked breasts garlanded with flowers, is a classic western male erotic fantasy not worlds away from Sarah Bernhardt on stage. South Sea Islands youths with limed blond hair and huge earrings are captioned "dandles", Saddest are six Batwa pygmies, kidnapped in central Africa, exhibited "live" at the Hippodrome with 17 polar bears and some Scottish dancers, and so famous that they were invited to the House of Commons. The photograph of them dressed in children's sailor suits taking tea on the terrace with MPs is a giveaway of the 1900s anthropological belief that "primi-tives" were in the "childhood of mankind" stage. "What did they think of the greatest Legislature in the world? What dim conception did they form of its purpose and work?" asked the photographer Benjamin Stone.

It is through such anecdotes. or case studies, that this book builds up a cumulative picture of the worldview that made colonial domination possible. In the Andaman Islands, an officer fascinated by "junglees" ("wayward but attractive children") took stereotyped photos like "Andamanese Shooting, Dancing, Sleeping and Greeting". They were sent home doctored - for example bunches of grass were scratched on to the plate of a naked chief and

pletely understand the Chi-

nese", over a century had

passed since the first sustained

western contacts with China.

The admiration of the early

visitors had been tempered by

disillusion, but misunderstand-

ing persisted. Despite the sub-

sequent growth of Chinese

studies and increased contact.

confusion" is one of Jonathan

Spence's favourite themes. In

the first section of this collec-

tion of essays he discusses peo-

ple who managed to penetrate

the confusion - notably Sid-

ney Gamble, a 20th-century

sinologist and photographer

and others who, despite their efforts, were part of it: Montes-

quieu's Chinese acquaintance

in Paris, Arcadio Huang; the

Jesuit scholar and confidant of

the Chinese emperor, Matteo

Ricci; the 16th century Portu-

guese traveller, Mendes Pinto;

and André Malraux and his lit-

These are delightful and sub-

tle portraits. Like Gamble's

photographs, they catch "the

evanescent moment in which a

particular face, a gesture, a

juxtaposition of elements.

comes to be more than itself

and to speak for a whole time

erary contemporaries.

This "400 year old history of

misperceptions remain today.

HEN Montes-

quieu declared "I

believe that we will never com-



Daughter of a census officer with a group of Onges in Little Andaman, 1911 from 'Anthropology & Photography'

Jangerous shots

his wife, both smoking pipes. Symbolic emasculation, but the photos helped the army learn more about the Andamanese, and its policy of subjugation worked: a final photo shows a dance celebrating Edward VII as Emperor of

The interpretation of photographs in this book also tells anthropology's own story, from its start as an unreflective patronising study of "primitive" people to a self-conscious discipline examining meaning in any society. Several decades on, W.Eugene Smith and the Photographic Essay is an account of the camera as political and social advocate, seen through the work of Life magazine's most famous photographer. Eugene Smith took shots for the human interest photoessays that made Life a mass circulation, high-quality magazine. But he was also an absolutist and a driven man, formed by the Depression, when his bankrupt father killed himself, and by the mor-

As a war photographer, he switched from warmonger (he wrote home about a knife "good for Japs, underbrush or steak") to pacifist whose photos were so unrelenting about the human cost of war that the Pentagon censored

alism of his Catholic convert

them. At Life, as photo-essays like "Country Doctor" and "Spanish Village" show, he had a mission precisely of his time: to portray and improve life for the ordinary poor through a new type of intimate, immediate picture which showed

ANTHROPOLOGY AND PHOTOGRAPHY 1860-1920 edited by Elizabeth **Edwards**

Yale £19.95, 275 pages W.EUGENE SMITH AND THE PHOTOGRAPIC **ESSAY**

by Glenn G Willumson Cambridge £55, 351 pages

everyday peopke working, eating, getting ill, giving birth. But did he really photograph Everyman? With carethis book examines the genesis of specific photo-essays, from choice of topic through research to the selection of strongly interpretative images from a 2,000negative contact sheet. The ult was benign propaganda, finding the "perfect" American example: the young and photogenic country doctor, his stoop, look, gesture implying exactly the mix of hard work, poverty, committed satisfaction; the

Main Street, Anytown, setting which must also be picturesque (Kremmling beneath the Rocky Mountains was chosen). For Smith, the triumph was to portray a secular saint; for Life, to tell a human story with a topical health care angle; for Amerika", Life's Russian translation, to advertise, by cropping and centering and magnifying, the great American dream.

Gradually Smith's political mission clashed with Life's in "Spanish Village" he wanted to stop US aid for Franco and he resigned, had breakdowns, died at 59 with \$18 in the bank. But anyone interested in the social outlook that saw the rise and fall of "Everyman" magazines like Life and Picture Post, and in the history of photographic journalism and how newspapers manipulate material, will enjoy this account of his life and work.

As Smith realised, the visual image is becoming our dominant mode of communication. But one reason it is so powerful is that most of us don't have the visual grammar to respond to it in the sophisticated way with which we dissect and interpret words. Both these elegant volumes are compelling and topical attempts to

Jackie Wullschlager

Chinese puzzle Although the essays are grouped thematically rather Confrontation with a new

Spence rejoices in details the size of Arcadio Huang's conjugal bed, for example and unexpected explanations. Grammar, he suggests, was the cause of Ricci's initial happiness in China. On leaving India Ricci no longer had to teach Greek, a highly inflected lan-

CHINESE ROUNDABOUT: ESSAYS IN HISTORY AND CULTURE by Jonathan D. Spence

W.W. Norton & Co. £15.95, 400

guage, and found the study of Chinese, which has "no articles, no cases, no number. no gender, no tense, no mood". much more enjoyable. But what distinguishes

Spence is not his recognition of the complexity of Chinese culture, for others have accepted this. Rather it lies in his refusal to be baffled by China, having accepted that complexity is not a bar to understanding. These self-selected essays manifest his determination "to think about China with precision . . . and to be fair and thorough." culture is a disorientating emerience The first few hundred years of Buddhism in China were marked by an attempt to ease understanding of the new religion by linking its ideas and practices with Daoism, an indigenous Chinese tradition. A similar process took place in the early years of Christianity in China, shown in Ricci's Buddhist robes and his retelling of Bible stories for Chinese consumption. But later Buddhists and

Christians realised that, in

stressing the similarities with native systems, differences were often forgotten and an accurate understanding of the new religion was not possible. The clichés which abound in western literature on China are a result of trying to explain China in Western terms. Spence challenges the clichés and presents a more sophisticated view in which differences are not distorted or glossed over. Speaking of the values expressed by an elderly Chinese philosopher he writes, "we may not accept or approve of them, but it is hard to deny that there was something truly worth saying at the centre of

than chronologically, those in tural interaction, and the fourth, on post-1949 China, contain Spence's most recent and most confident work. While the portraits are enthusiastic, the tributes to his various teachers express respect and admiration for people who also refused to be baffled. The only piece in the other sections which rivals these in depth of feeling is "Tiananmen", written after the events of June 4, 1989.

The remaining sections contain a miscellany of lectures and book reviews. They cover subjects as diverse as the cost of an imperial dinner, the 19thcentury debate on whether to prohibit or legalise opium, and the importance of tradition in 20th-century political debates, displaying Spence's self-admit-ted and welcome "hare-brained eclecticism" although lacking the sparkle of the rest.

In his essays Spence, like the 16th century Dominican friar Gaspar da Cruz, has sought "those elusive elements that would give the complete pic-ture of China". Many others have done the same over the past four centuries. Spence, however, remains one of the few to realise the impossibility of the task.

Susan Whitfield

Operatic Czech

UST AS recognition in his own country came late to Janaček, so his reputation was slow to spread more widely. Outside Czechoslovakia his growth to popularity has been a post-Second World War phenomenon; that of the Janacek literature has been even more recent. Through his writings over the last 25 years John Tyrrell has established himself as a leading scholar in this and the wider field of Czech opera; this book, based on his work in the Janáček archive at Brno, draws together a wealth of documents relating to the genesis, publication and early performances of Janáček operas.

Janáček, one of this century's greatest musical dramatists, endured many setbacks and suffered particular humili-ation at the hands of unsympathetic theatre directors. His long struggles run through the book like a leitmotif, making reading that is at once illuminating and depressing.

Since the composition of Jenufa took him the best part of ten years, and was overshadowed by the death of his daughter Olga, its rejection in 1904 by the National Theatre in

Prague proved a severe blow. It was only in 1916, after the first Prague performance finally took place, that the 61-year-old composer was able to write, "I am beginning to believe in my life and my mission"; in 1904 his sole response had been to "deaden the pain with work"

- but, as he added, "I've got

problems with a libretto". That work was Osud ("Fate"), and while the libretto did indeed prove problematic (Janáček made up the scenario as he progressed, and to this day it verges on the incompre-hensible), its complications were overshadowed by the dif-ficulties he incurred writing The Excursions of Mr Brouček. At least his troubles with publishers here were his last. After Brouček, the composer produced his librettos virtually single-handedly, and the remaining four operas flowed more freely (his last, From the House of the Dead, was written

in under 11 months). But it would be simplistic to link this too closely to the JANACEK'S OPERAS: A DOCUMENTARY ACCOUNT by John Tyrrell Faber & Faber £25, 405 pages

characterised Janáček's final phase: there was also his growing love for Kamila Stösslová, which, though unrequited, gave him added creative impulse.

Perhaps most interesting is the background to Janáček's seldom-heard early operas Sárka and The Beginning of a Romance. The first took a libretto by the Czech symbolist poet Julius Zeyer which both Dvořák and Smetana had turned down. Janáček based the second on a short story by Gabriela Preissová, whose The Stepdaughter he later made

into Jenufa.

As the title of the book suggests, this is a collection of sources which relate to the nine extant operas. One longs for more - Janáček's thoughts flowering that on the genre, or on the operas

fascinating, though some of these would admittedly lie outside the scope of the book. It is a pity that little account is given of his projected operas. Though the evidence for some of these may be slight, musical sketches for at least four incomplete stage works exist: The Housewife was to have been based on another of Preissová's texts, and two others, Anna Karenina and The Living Corpse, two Tolstoy projects, evince the deep sympathy for Russian subjects reflected elsewhere in his

of other composers, would be

In general, though, Tyrrell has marshalled his material splendidly, to make it both scholarly and readable. His sources are meticulously listed in an appendix, leaving the text arranged and linked as a flowing documentary narrative. Containing as it does much material that has not appeared in English before (and some, indeed, that has not been published anywhere), this is a major addition to the Janáček bibliography.

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John Allison

Why short is beautiful

Clement Crisp states his case for the triple bill

20 years and more. The tradition has grown up among Western ballet goers – and it is one entirely owed to the Royal Ballet's example in perform-ing 19th century classics, and then finding in Ashton, Cranko, MacMillan, Bintley, choreographers able to extend the fullevening creation - that a "real" evening at the ballet means a long dramatic work,

This nonsensical view has been accepted by ballet companies world-wide, driven by the box-office imperative. Major troupes trot out variously tiresome versions of the old war-horses, buy in evening-long works from other companies, and the public flocks. Smaller ensembles sell titles rather than ballets to their audience, and with little conscience offer shrunken and shoddy productions under familiar names. (I report, with unwavering gaze, that there is a version of Nutcracker currently on view in Europe which also involves elements from A Christmas Carol).

The triple bill, which once offered a range of balletic experience, a variety of dancing, a choice of choreography, a happy display of dancers' artistry in varied roles, flourishes only with New York City Ballet, where Balanchine's genius was expended in making a treasury of short pieces that remain the supreme example of classical ballet in our century. Elsewhere, box-office receipts will tell a tale of failing attendance for evenings comprising three contrasting works, no matter how great their merits. Prohibitive seat-prices mean that audiences will go for what they think are the big, safe, cast-iron productions. If it's swans, it must be good, is their motto. And, as these columns

never tire of saying, the reverse is true. The Royal Ballet has, with a bravery every ballet-goer must commend, made a serious effort in recent years to wean its public off swans and Veronese lovers through intelligent (usually!) triple bills. Much of the history and artistic achievement of ballet in our century is to be found in such works. The current Covent Garden programme of Apollo, Judas Tree, Symphony in C is a fine one - it will be on view twice next week - and it is in the main very well danced. (I record that, after the fashion of the one-time Nureyev circuses, advertisements announce that "Irek Mukhamedov will dance at every performance").

Certainly Mukhamedov's presence - in either Apollo or Judas Tree - is reason enough to go. Both ballets gain in significance from his artistry. On Thursday, he was replaced as the Foreman in Judas Tree by Zoltan Solymosi. Solymosi's interpretation lacks the fervour that drives Mukhemedov's reading - it misses, as yet, something in emotional and dynamic ferocity – but it is a worthy account of the role. The revelation of the performance was Leanne Benjamin's appearance as the woman, a characterisation of extraordinary sexual and technical pungency. Each pose and provocative movement, the shifts between belligerent sluttishness and invul-

ALLETIC triple bills have not been popular with audiences for and stated: the ballet seemed to be about the woman as victim - and ultimate victor - rather than about betrayal. It was a beautiful and piercingly credible imper-

> Mukhamedov's view of Balanchine's Apollo at this performance was one which saw the role in a single span, and gave it emotional and physical momentum from first moment to last. He exposed the dramatic substructure of the choreography. He showed us the reason for every action by the young god, and without communicative fuss - nothing over-emphatic - he provided an armature for the dance action. It was a reading more powerful, more dense, than any I have seen before. It would look out of place in New York City Ballet performance today, but this Royal

in the piece. We are shown Apollo as drama rather than rite: and the choreography is rich and resonant enough to sustain both interpretations. As Terpsichore, Viviana Durante made an elegant, puretoned debut. About Symphony in C, most radiant of

ballets, I am less happy in these current performances. Girls are being sent out to do women's jobs - ballerinas are in short supply at Covent Garden - and to do Balanchine justice, we must see diamond clarity and unforced grandeur. It is, none theless, a work of cumulative joys, and it ends an admirable triple bill on the happi-

purged clarity that is now the NYCB style

This triple bill is given final performances at Covent Garden on January 27 and 28.



Off the Wall/Anthony Thorncroft

Benefits for the adventurous

OULD IT happen at last? Is the Arts Council about to raise its chopper and axe the grants of some of the 150 clients that still look to it for sustenance?

It is one of the vagaries of arts funding in the UK that, despite frequent huffing and puffing and the occasional minor sacrificial victim, once you are in with the Arts Council your organisation is supported for life. The Regional Boards are more vicious, especially to community projects, but the leading theatre companies, dance troupes, art galleries and orchestras never suffer more than the occasional frozen grant from the Council.

But, by a nice irony, the platitudinous strategy document finally produced this week, A Creative Future, is to form the basis of - guess what - a radical strategy. Within three months the Council will decide its funding priorities on the basis of the guidelines mapped out in this document. It prom ises to go for quality rather than quantity, and to scythe off not just individual client companies but whole areas of funding, while lavishing more resources on key objectives. This will not mean the end of

literature, touring opera, or regional theatre. But it could mean a system which rewards creativity, educational work, access - all the new buzzwords ~ and hits hard at the routine pothoilers. Basically, the controversial decision of the Eastern Orchestral Board to fix its grants to concert promoters in line with the popularity of the composers programmed - a £450 grant if you ut on Tchaikovsky, £1,000 for Mahler, building up to £2,000 for Harrison Birtwistle - will become the national template. So, in theory, if the Royal Opera House, facing a growing deficit, plans more performances of Tosco, Carmen and Bohème in its 1993-94 season, it can anticipate a reduced grant. But since the Council thinks that Covent Garden is at last getting its act together, this is unlikely to happen. More likely

victims are the orchestras and

regional theatre companies which play safe with a diet of Beethoven and Ayckbourn. What has happened spas-

modically in the past - as in the reduction of the Council's grant to the RPO because it favoured programmes of popular classics which attracted big audiences - will become the norm. Arts groups with an impressive youth programme, or which commission new dance works, or tour round vil-

WITH Art 93 at the Business Design Centre in Islington (until Sunday), London at last has a contemporary art fair which can stand comparison with those in Chicago, Basle, Frankfurt and Madrid. It is also more populist than in the past, with decorative prints priced around £250 alongside grittier abstract sculptures costing £100,000 plus.

few chances, and anyone put

The Arts Council's latest strategy document promises to support quality rather than quantity

lage halls, can expect more. The Council has the advantage of a lower grant for 1994-95, down £5m to £220m, which can justify some pruning. Nothing has yet been settled, but the likely blueprint is more for living artists, less for dead masters. In May some unadventurous regional theatre companies or dance troupes might lose all their subsidy.

That is until the specialist panels, the vested interests and the local lobbyists start kicking up a rumpus and the Council backs down. There is also the chance that the Heritage Minister, Peter Brooke, who is being lobbied by his good friend, the Arts Council chairman Lord Palumbo to rescind the £5m cut, will deliver more cash for 1994-95. The eventual bloodletting is likely to disappoint Dracula.

The auction houses see no early end to the recession and are drastically reducing staff. Christie's did it in one foul swoop before Christmas: Sotheby's favours the gradual approach. Another 15 went in London this week. There is a sad case of shooting the messenger because the main casualty is Fiona Ford, a Sotheby's loyalist for 25 years, who resigned as head of the press office when her department was shorn of two staff. Casualties have been among support workers, but departures from the top echelons are expected.

off contemporary art by the lumpen choices for the Turner Prize can have their enthusiasm re-fired. The first buyer was dealer Leslie Waddington, who snapped up an Anthony Caro sculpture from Anneley Juda and a David Mach sculp ture from William Jackson. He got a small discount - but,

these days, so can you.
Also active was Unilever, which is showing its corporate collection on the upper gallery and adding to it all the time buying a Martin Kane painting from Jill George for £4,000 and six works by Royal College of Art student Nicholas Morris for a total of around £1,200 from the Contemporary Art Society's Mini-market, where works start at £100.

But perhaps the most eye catching exhibit is Michael Roosen's stand, which displays 48 portraits by Zsuzsi Roboz of leading contemporary artists. including Hockney, Rego,

ART GALLERIES

THE WORLD OF DRAWINGS & Visiencolous Fair Perk Line Hotel, Phadilly London W1. 20-24 January 1983. 1 tem-Spm. 7pm last 2 days. Tek 071 489 8321

MARLBOROUGH FINE ARY LTD 6 Abomario Street, London W1 Paula Rego "Peter Pan and Other Stories" Unit 30 January 1993. Mon-Fri 10 am - 5.30 pm, Sat 10 am - 12.30 pm, Closed Bank

MICHAEL PARKIN GALLERY, 11 Motoomi St. SWI WALTER SICKERT until 29th Jan.

Frink and Bacon. He insists on selling the collection intact, for around £160,000.

With the IRA making a pre-Christmas visit to the theatre too much of a drama for some last month, attendances in the West End in 1992 are likely to match, rather than overhaul. the 10.9m set the previous year. This is still some achievement, given the recession and the fact that 1991 produced the second best total on record.

But there are causes for alarm. After a good first half 1992 got progressively stickier and more seats than ever were sold at a discount. There are signs that private angels are less keen to regularly lose money backing plays and that producers are having to dip into their own bank balances

to put them on. But theatre owners, instead of being only interested in rent, are now considering themselves part of the play. The most striking commitment was by Maybox, owner of seven West End theatres, which agreed to cover the production costs of Sam Mendes ambitious season at the revamped Donmar Warehouse which, because of its small cially viable. The success of his first production, Assassins, helped secure the Donmar £100,000 and a year's sponsorship from Carlton TV, which relieves Maybox of its burden.

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vital gifts. Sister Superior.



Lear sans court at the Court

Malcolm Rutherford enjoys Max Stafford-Clark's swan song production

AX Stafford-Clark, the departing artistic director at the Royal Court, says that he had been thinking about performing King Lear there for a good five years. It is an intriguing idea and one can see why it was so long in gestation, for the Court, although the stage is very tall, is a relatively small theatre and Lear is by all conventional standards a very large play. Clearly the challenge was to find a new approach

appropriate to the place. Stafford-Clark has pulled it off. This is not the classic Lear of grand poetry and sweeping gestures. It is more a bourgeois soap than a regal tragedy. But for the first time in my experience it comes across as a cracking good story. The pace of the production is prodigious - it lasts barely more than three hours. And because of deliberately going down a notch or two in the social scale, the capacity to move is if anything enhanced.

There are some dramatic transformations of the stock version of the play. At

FTER THE Control-

lers came the Direc-

tor-General, though

the start Goneril and Regan seem entirely justified in their dislike of their father's habit of bringing 100 unruly retainers to their country seats. They want to get on with giving their dinner parties and running their homes in peace. A more subtle change is is that they are not remotely look-alikes, hardly even recognisably out of the same stable. Lia Williams's Goneril is svelte, blonde and notably well-dressed. Saskia Reeves's Regan plainly cares less about her appearance. But they are both enamoured of the same man: Edmund, the bastard son of the Earl of Gloucester, played with a northern Irish accent by Adrian Dunbar. Here is

soap of a very high order. Tom Wilkinson's Lear does not look like an old man, certainly not at the beginning. He is red-faced, has a large moustache and seems rather coarse, more a country squire than a king. This belies what is to come. Wilkinson plays the final scenes with Cordelia with magnificent pathos. By then, he has aged. The key to his character is that

he seems genuinely to fear going mad. When he does it is the onset of madness that makes him first feel for other people. The "poor, naked wretches" speech is the beginning of his understanding. Wilkinson takes the verse in his stride; he does not pander to it, but never squanders it. His triumph in the acting is that he is a distressed human being: the kingship is secondary.

There are some wonderful moments The scene where Edgar leads his father to the brink of suicide over the cliffs of Dover can scarcely have been better done. The tension in what by now has become a thriller is breath-taking. Played by Iain Glen. Edgar has a claim to being the most outstanding actor in the production after Wilkinson's Lear.

Eccentricities crop up. The Fool is presented by Andy Serkis as a drag queen. If there is subtlety here, I missed though one has always wondered about Queen Lear and her influence on the family. With the line "My poor Fool is hanged", the Fool's body is seen suspended from a rope high up in the background. Perhaps only fidelity to the text let the Fool be retained; it is the least satisfactory role in the Stafford-Clark interpretation.

The dress is spread across the 20th century to about the late 1950s: trench coats. British military uniform, green army jumpers and jodhpurs. Cara Kelly's Cordelia comes back from France kitted out like a colonel's lady on an afternoon's ride. There is no obvious reason for the wardrobe, except that they have to be dressed in something.

The thunder and lightning are ter-rific, using the height of the stage to the full, and there is an authentic whiff of cordite, guns being employed along side swords. In short, this is probably the most exciting production of Lear you will ever see. It is also the most enjoyable one of a play which, apart from some of the verse, I have always disliked intensely. Here paradoxically is Lear at the Court without the court, an experience unlikely to be repeated. Go!

Royal Court Theatre. (071) 730 1745

Culture with Clinton

"BILL AND Hillary Clinton are going to trigger a cultural renaissance in this country from MTV (Music Television) to the most sophisticated arts." said Ed Markey, Democratic Congressman from Massachusetts, at a Washington cocktail party on Wednesday night.

We will probably have to chalk up Markey's extravagant statement to inaugurationnight ebullience, but there is an undeniable sense among those interested in America's cultural life that Clinton's presidency brings new hope for the arts in America. "Bill Clinton has shown him-

self to be a person who's culturally aware and concerned, and I expect that his administration will bring new thinking about the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). We've had many years of a suffocating environment for the arts, and I look forward to a change in attitude," said Del Reisman, a screenwriter and President of the Writers Guild of America.

The past 12 years of Republican leadership have been at best indifferent, and at worst openly hostile, to the arts. Since Reagan took office in 1981, NRA funding has dropped 36 per cent. The last three years have been particularly embattled ones for the NEA as controversies over the funding of politically outspoken and sexually explicit art by such artists as Andres Serrano, Robert Mapplethorpe and Karen Finley have provoked a national "art war" about what constitutes obscenity and

Little is known for sure about what Clinton's arts poiicy will be. The arts have not been at the top of his agenda during his campaign. Though Clinton advisors did work with the NEA during the transition, they did not issue a statement of arts policy. But Clinton's record on, and attitudes towards, the arts bode well for

Clinton and Gore's campaign platform included a promising. if pithy, statement on the arts, defending artists' freedom of expression and advocating government support of the arts through the NEA. Though their campaign initially opposed content restrictions for NEA-funded art, Clinton has equivocated on this point. He said in the October 1992 Equity News that, "While I believe that publicly funded projects should strive to reflect the values that most communities share, I strongly support and will defend freedom of

remains to be seen. Speculations are flying about whom Clinton will appoint as

speech and artistic expression." Just what Clinton

defines as community values

As the new US president takes over, Karen Fricker looks at the implications for the arts

NEA chairman. The position was particularly politicised last February when the Bush administration asked John Frohnmayer to step down from the chair and replaced him with staunch conservative Anne-Imelda Radice. Radice's use of her veto power on several gay-themed projects which had already received peer panel approval won her few friends in the arts community. She stepped down voluntarily this week with "no regrets. Longtime NEA bureaucrat Ana Steele will serve as acting chair until Clinton appoints someone to the position. Rumored to be under consideration are Yale School of Drama dean Lloyd Richards, chairperson of the Dayton Hudson Foundation Cynthia Mayeda, New York State Council for the

Arts chair Kitty Carlisle Hart actress Lauren Bacall, and FOB (Friend of Bill) Deborah Sale, who was a member of the

transition arts team. The NEA's total budget \$174 million in 1993 - is in Federal terms insignificant. But NEA grants are crucial to the life of arts organisations, particularly small ones, and breed more money; corporate and private funders view a NEA grant as a quality stamp and are more likely to lend their support to arts institutions that are NEA funded.

Clinton's record on the arts as Governor of Arkansas is fairly strong. Arkansas' state budget arts allotment is the seventh lowest in the country, but it has remained constant during the recession while other states have slashed arts budgets or eliminated them entirely.

"We're not the biggest agency in the state, but Governor Clinton kept in touch, says Bill Puppione, Executive Director of the Arkansas Arts Council. "There was a feeling among arts administrators that the Governor knew what was going on and that they had access to him," Puppione says.

In its 1987 education reform package, instituted by a board that included Hillary Clinton, Arkansas added an arts requirement for high school graduation, one of the first American states to do so. Education and the accessibility of the arts, prominently men-tioned in Clinton and Gore's campaign platform, are likely to figure in their national arts

Beyond policy, the president has the opportunity to influence public opinion about the arts through his personal behaviour, and this is where Clinton is likely to make the largest impact. Cynics deride Clinton's sax-playing appearences on talk shows and at presidential galas as imagemongering, and those of higher brow consider his musical pref-erences - Michael Bolton, Kenny G., Fleetwood Mac the aesthetic equivalent of McDonald's decaf. But Clinton's active interest in music has humanised him to the pub-

And though some call Clinton's choice of an African-American woman, Maya Ange lou, to read her poetry at his inauguration pandering to political correctness, he was the first President since Kennedy to include a poet in the

inaugural ceremonies. The Clintons led an active cultural life in Arkansas. They Little Rock's Arkansas Repertory Theatre and hosted fundraisers for the theatre and other Arkansas arts organisations and Hillary Clinton was on the board of the state's larg-

est ballet company. Cliff Baker, Artistic Director of Arkansas Rep, says that the Clintons were known to creep into the balcony of his theatre on a Sunday night "just because they wanted to see the show, not because they wanted to be seen."

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Bill Clinton with FOB Michael Jackson

Radio/B.A. Young

Movement on the air

in Radio 4's Sunday afternoon debate Airing the Future he had only a brief innings at the end of things, his rival debaters being senior executives from both the BBC and independent outfits, with some members of the public. He must have heard much that he would not agree with.

He repeated what we should know; that the Corporation seeks the best talent, does not seek imitative work, is ready to adapt to changes in society; and he turned down a proposal made earlier by Joan Bakewell that the licence should be charged at "a fair rate" of £140. The 24-hour rolling news was described by foreign correspondent Charles Wheeler as "the worst idea yet"; Sir Robin Day, very cross, said it was one of few good ideas the BBC had had. The DG did not deal with it.

Radio 4's Saturday night Classic Serials move from next week to Sunday afternoons (another good idea). Last Saturday we had Gun before Butter instead, about Inspector Van der Valk, more familiar on television, here played by Ian Hogg. It consisted mostly of a soliloguy by Lucienne (Sophie Thompson), whom Van der Hetty Baynes as Mizi, Chris- mining world of Eastwood, Barbados," Sharon proposes.

Valk reckoned to have killed her lover Stam (Roger Hume): there was little detection, just adventure and romance. Nicolas Freeling's novel was adapted by Philip Martin, who also directed. Radio 3's Sunday play was another Stoppard adaptation from Schnitzler, Liebelei, now

Dalliance. This too deals with honour among prosperous Austrians, but introduces a Schnitzler special, the guileless working girl. Fritz (Douglas Hodge) is dallying with Christine (Rachel Joyce), but more seriously, offstage, with a married lady of his own class, whose husband challenges him. The emotional acme of the plot comes when Fritz's friend Theodore calls on Christine to explain that Fritz has been killed in an "accident". The plot is trivial, but the comprehension of the characters makes it deeply moving, and the playing under Jeremy Howe was first-class, with

Hugh Grant as Theodore and

tine's friend.

Nick Ward's Red Sku at Night (Radio 4, Monday) was a kind of adaptation too, though Ward (who also directed) says it was "inspired" by D.H.Lawrence. (It was introduced by a reading of Lawrence's essay Humns in a Child's Life). The tale tells how Alfred (Paul Copley) quarrelled with his wife Katherine (Julia Ford) because he spent their money on booze, then was killed in a pit accident. The direction called up most pictorially the

ONTEMPORARY jazz has split into

two distinct camps

where Lawrence came from. The difference between poverty in Lawrence's day and our

own was seen on Thursday in Octopus Boys, the first of Radio 5's series, The Collection. Lawrence would hardly understand it. What are these Giros? What is the YTS? Why are all these young people "in care", whatever that means? How come they have flats on the council? Well, it is not strange to us, and writer Judith Johnson has

caught it adroitly. Mickey (Neil Anthony), 17, on the run from

a hostel, lives off Sharon and Kelley, who live off the dole; but what he wants is work on the Octopus ride at a fair. At the fair, he and Sharon (Sune-tra Sarker) find £2000 of the Octopus management's money. and steal it. "We could go to But the boys from the Octobu catch up with them. No happy end: how could there be? The vigorous production is by Martin Jameson.

Radio 1's refreshing social concern was reflected in Saturday's Pink Pop, where the involvement of gay people in pop music was displayed in song and story. Presented by Laurie Pike, this was not one of their great investigative numbers, but honest, interesting, fair and fun. No "helpline" attached to this one.

Jazz/Garry Booth

Faith in Frisell

Marsalis clan, trumpeter Roy Hargrove, and even aggressive saxophonist Steve Coleman all continue a jazz tradition that calls for standards, or their own nervy compositions that could pass for standards, to be interpreted in the conventional bop idiom. In the other camp, lying more languidly, are chamber groups led by people like saxophonists John Surman, Jan Garbarek, or drummer Paul Motian, who have wider terms

of reference. They take the

essence of folk tunes, pop

songs - and sacred standards

and perform on them a

"NA few weeks' time ten

years will have passed

since William Walton's

death. It probably seems

more: most of his major works,

including the First Symphony.

the Violin Concerto and Bel-shazar's Feast, date from the

1930s and it is the style of that

decade that one takes away so

vividly from almost all his

music - its cinematic sweep,

its unabashed romance, the

echoes of jazz, the violent pre-

monitions of impending disas-

This was the decade in

which music in Britain might

be said decisively to have bro-

ken with its insular past. Wal-

ton was the first to shake off

conservatism and it might be

thought that the international

flavour of his music would

have ensured an international

Chess No 957: They agreed a

draw, foreseeing 1 Qxg3 Rxf5 2

exf5! Qxg3 3 Rd8+ Bf8 (Kh7 4

Bg8+ Kh8 5 Bb3+ repeats) 4 Rxf8+ Kh7 5 Rf7+.

(leaving aside fusion, trad and similar afflic-

tions for the moment). In the

one, young musicians like the

musical chromatography. Guitarist Bill Frisell belongs to this group and is more often heard gently dissecting the likes of Bill Evans alongside Paul Motian. In his own latest collection of covers, where Dylan collides with Madonna, Ives with Sousa, he has taken deconstruction toward its limit, however. So hard to swallow are some of the selections that purchasers of the new album. Have a Little Faith (Elektra Nonesuch 7559-79301).

Kermit Driscoll (electric bass), Joey Baron (drums) and Don Byron (clarinets) for this UK tour, Frisell's trademark notes, bent by an assortment of pedals, work hard at suppressing the message of familiar tunes. He releases component parts of a melody tortuously, creating a tension which is then relieved by a slashing power chord and more snatches of the familiar. I never imagined I would be glad to hear Madonna's "Live To Tell" coming through the ether of improvisation.

determinedly, the rhythm section clattering about pleasantly behind and dreadlocked Don Byron squeezing in only occasionally with leaping clarinets. Opening at the QEH with Aaron Copland's Billy the Kid suite, he moved jauntily through the Americana of Muddy Waters, Dylan and Charles Ives, the dislocated arrangements and earnest knob twiddling giving alternately comic and polgnant meaning to "classics". The resulting abstraction is as fresh and intelligent as that of his peers in the other camp but is it still jazz?

Tour continues to Dartington, Cambridge, Southampton, Leeds, Birmingham and Sheffield. Sponsors: Arts Council Contemporary Music Network

treads this precarious line

regarded as valuable Walton, although the composer seems to have retained an interest in

tant event, as opposed to a merely enjoyable one, was the deeply-felt performance of the Cello Concerto, which came in between. To judge from the heady atmosphere they created from the opening bars - sultry evenings on Walton's Ischia perhaps, tempered by pensiveness and melancholy - Mischa Maisky, the cello soloist, and Ashkenazy would seem to have a hot line to Walton's unique sound-world. If the next ten years are to see a widening of Walton's popularity, this Concerto looks a good place to

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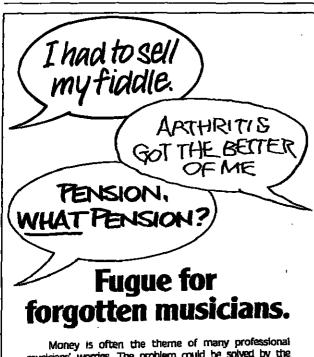
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are well advised by its title and need to persevere.

Set in a quartet consisting of

Vague and fogeyish, Frisell

Concert/Richard Fairman Walton tribute

following after his death. But that is not quite how it has worked out: apart from Previn and Slatkin, there are few conductors from overseas who get beyond the most obvious handful of Walton's works. To that select group, how-

ever, one more can be added. Vladimir Ashkenazy has shown an unexpected willingness to forage in Britain's musical heritage during his years in London as a conductor, taking in a number of performances and recordings of Walton's music. To mark the composer's death he has put together two complete Walton programmes and, if the second is as good as the one on Thursday, they will constitute an important tribute from a non-British musician. The main item was Belshaz-

work more or less selects itself. as Walton produced so few full-scale concert scores, but the performance had a panache that made it out-of-the-ordinary. When Solti conducted Belshazzar, he gave it a primeval violence worthy of Stravinsky, Ashkenazy reminded me more of Rakhmaninov's Symphonic Dances (1940) in the music's glorying of rhythm and orchestral glamour. It was a joyous performance, well supported by the Brighton Festival Chorus and John Connell, the bass.

zar's Feast. This favourite

Some very fine playing from the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (resplendent brass, warm strings) was already presaged in the Suite from Henry V. Too much pastiche is incorporated for this to be

his film scores (I recall him making a special visit to see his Hamlet at the Aldeburgh Festival in the 1970s). What ensured this first concert of the pair was an impor-

TELEVISION

LWT

SATURDAY

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 What's Up Doc? 11.30 Movies, Movies, Movies, 12,00 The ITV Chart Show.

BBC₁

7.00 Champion the Wonder Horse. 7.25 News. 7.30 Henry's Cat 7.35 Wiz Bang. 7.50 Lift' Bits. 8.10 Eggs 'n' Baker. 8.35 Tom and Jerry: Greatest Hits. 9.00 Going Live!

12.12 News.

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12.15 Grandstand. Introduced by Steve Rider. Including at 12.20 Football: Previewing the fourth round of the FA Cup. 1.00 News. 1.05 Rac-ing from Haydock Park: The 1.10 Jim Ennis Construction Premier Long-Distance Hurdle, 1.20 Skiing: The Men's Downhill from Wengen, Switzerland. 1.35 Recing: The 1.40 FK Roofing Champion Hurdle Trial. 1.50 Cyclo-Cross: The British Open Championship from the Aldersley tadium, Wolverhampton. 2.05 Racing: The 2.10 Peter Marsh Steeplechase (H'cap), 2.20 Bas-ketball: Guildford Kings v Tham ketball: Guildford Kings v Thames Valley Tigers at the National Indoor Arena, Birmingham. 2.55 Rugby League: Bradford v Wigan in the Regal Trophy final live from Elland Road, Leeds. 3.45 Football Mail Tro Football Half-Times. 3.55 Rugby League: Second-half coverage Bradford v Wigan, 4.40 Final

Score. Times may vary. 5.15 News and Weather. 5.25 Regional News and Sport.

5.30 Carloon, 5.35 That's Sh

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5.35 There showousness.
6.05 Noel's House Party. England rugby union captain Will Carling receives a 'grand slam' and a Gotcha Oscar from Mr Blobby. Actress Kate O'Mara also joins in he fun at Crinkley Bottor 7.00 The Paul Daniels Magic Sho The king of conjurers presents an illusion inspired by the tales of horror writer Edgar Allan Poe.

7.50 Casualty. Michael Cashmi the parents of a young boy brought into Holby after being electrocuted at home. Duffy has problems with a young mo (Julia Hills) who has been as been admit ted with severe knile wounds. and the staff prepare for the arrival of their new consultant.

8.40 Birds of a Feather 9.10 News and Sport Weather.

9.30 That's Life! 10.10 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley 11.20 Film: Go Tell the Spartens, Buri

War drama (1978). 1.10 Weather. 1.15 Close.

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BBC2 8.00 Open University. 8.05 Film. Arch of Tri-umph. 11.15 The Strange Affair of - The Ocome-day Prophecies, 11.45 Donovan the Diviner. 12.15 pm Film: The Errand Boy.

1.50 Network East Last programme in the series of arts and entertain-ment features for the Asian community.

2.20 Tanhaiyan. (English subtities). 3.00 Cartos 3.15 Film: High Slerra. Humphrey
Bogart slars as a gangster whose
tough exterior is eroded when he
befriends a lame girl, Drama,

also starring Ida Lupino and Joan Leslie (1941). 4.55 Crufts 1993. Peter Purves, Jessica Holm and Mike Stockn

look back at the event's best of breed winners from all groups. 6.00 Scrutiny. Examining the work of Parliament's Select Committees.
6.30 News and Sport; Weather.
6.45 Kings of the Castle. World Chess Championship 1993. Britain's Nigel Short plays Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman for the right to Challenge World Champion Garry Kasparov.

Garry Kasparov. 7.15 Sounds of the Seventies. Tracing the emergence of British glam

rock at the start of the 1970s, with performances by Queen, David Bowle, The Faces, Elton John, The Who and The Rolling Stones. 7.50 Fine Cut. Taut documentary following three convicted murderers awaiting execution in Potosi Cor-rectional Centre, Missouri. Filmmaker Stephen Trombley gained exclusive access to film the men as they await their fate along with

77 other condemned inmat Moving Pictures. Actor Jeff Goldblum talks about his latest role in the thriller Deep Cover, and director Martin Scorsese pays tribute to the late cinemato pher Nestor Almendros. Plus, a look at the state of the New Zea-

land film industry. 10.10 Film: Sweetle. A shy young woman meets the man of her dreams, but her new lound happiness is shattered with the return of her self-destructive sister.

Starring Genevieve Lemon (1989). 11.45 Film: Vigil. A young girl has a hard time accepting her father's death - especially after her mother sets up home with a

Matiock.

1.00 ITN News; Westher.

1.05 London Today; Weather.

2.05 Hard Time on Planet Earth. 3.00 The A-Team. 3.55 WCW Worldwide Wrestling. Top grappling action.

4.40 ITN News and Results; Wealth

1.10 Matiock. Another case for willy Atlanta defence attorney, Ben

5.00 London Tonight and Sport; 5.10 New Baywatch.

6.00 Blind Date, 7.00 Barrymore. Michael Barrymore presents more chat, music and entertainment as he discovers the public's hidden talents.

Among his guests is a seven-year-old boy from Somerset who impersonates Al Joison, and The Floor Technicians, four men from Bristol who teach Michael a ne dance routine from the musical Five Guys Named Moe. 7.45 Film: Big Trouble in Little China. Kurt Russell stars in John Car-

penter's tongue-in-cheek adven-ture about a trucker who encounters all manner of supernatural goings-on in Los Angeles Chinatown. Also starring Klm Cattrall and Dennis Dun (1986)

9.35 ITN News; Weather

9.50 London Tonight, Weather. 9.55 Film; The Runaway Train. Rebecca DeMornay s

action adventure as a railroad worker trapped on a runaway train with a pair of escaped convicts (Jon Voight and Eric Roberts) (1985).

including fashlon, cuisine, enter-tainment and attitudes), followed by Night Shift and ITN News

11.55 The Big E (European life

1.00 Basketbali (NBA Jam Session), followed by Get Stuffed. 2.05 New Music, Janna Lynn White

3.25 Night Heat, followed by Stir Frv. 4.25 BPM, followed by Night Shift.

CHANNEL4

6.00 Early Morning, 10.00 Trans World Sport. 11.00 Gezzetta Footbell Italia, 12.00 American Footbell: Play Action, 12.30 pm Songs and

1.00 Smog. Hungarian animation following a bird's flight.
1.10 Racing from Kempton. Including the 1.20 Bic Razor Novice's Chase, 1.50 Bic Lady Shaver Handicap Hurdle, 2.20 Bic Razor Lanzarote Handicap Hurdle, and the 2.50 Fulwell Handicap Chase.

3.15 Film: Yellow Sky. Western adven-

5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition 6.30 Right to Reply. With Mark Garner, whose company markets Red Hot Television, the Danish hard-core porn channel available in the UK.

porn channel available in the Scale Pius, viewers discuss Cariton's The Good Sex Guide.

7.00 A Week in Politics. Peter Lilley MP, Secretary of State for So Security, talks about the future of the benefits system. With even the Labour Party prepared to question universal benefits, should the Government not review the basis of the welfare state? Plus, a look at the mood of prepare for their second referen-

um on Maastricht. Everest New series. Fol dramatic explorations and chall lenges undertaken by writers and film-makers. Cameraman Leo Dickinson has taken some of tele-vision's most dramatic pictures as a diver, mountaineer and parachutist. The first program charts his daring balloon flight

over Everest. Stephen King's Golden Years. Fourth of the six-part thriller. 10.00 Saturday Zoo. Jimmy Nail, star of Spender, is the co-host on this

week's show. Guests are Row-land Rivron and Kevin Day. 11.00 Ready Steady Gol Cult 1960s pop music show, featuring The Bea-tles, Sandie Shaw and The Kinks.

11.35 Adult Oprah. The chat show queen discusses the emotional subject of verbai, physical and sexual child abuse. She talks to victims and reveals the traumas of her own childhood.

12.30 Film: Max Dugan Returns starring Marsha Mason, Matthew Broderick and Jason Robards Jr (1983).

2.20 The Word

THE NERVES are showing at the world

ITY REGIONS AS LONDON EXCEPT AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:-

REGIONS

1.05 Angila News. 1.10 WCW Worldwide Wres tiling. 2.00 The A-Tesm. 2.55 Nero Wolfe. (TVI 1977) 5.00 Angila News and Sport 9.50 Regiona Weether. 11.55 Liza and Friends. BOTHERS 1.05 Border News. 1.10 Kick Off. 1.38 Isn't Life Wanderfull (1952) 3.00 Granada Sport Action. 5.00 Border News and Weather 11.55 Lize and

CHNTRAL 1.05 Central News 1.10 Westward Ho the Wag-ona. (1956) 5.00 Central News 5.05 The Central Metch — Goals Extra. 9.55 The Runaway Train. 11.55 The Uniorgiven. ture starring Gregory Peck ands Richard Widmark (1948).

CHANNEL 1.05 Channel News and Weather 1.10 Crack in the World. (1965) 5.06 Channel News. 5.05 Puf-fin's Pla(i)ce. 11.55 Liza and Friends.

GRAMPIAN:
11.30 Bill Duncan's Magic Box, 1.05 Grampian
Headlines 1.10 The Munsters Today, 1.40
Speaking Our Language, 2.15 Folice News, 2.20
Movies, 2.50 The Best and
Worst of Sport, 3.55 Wrastling, 5.00 Grampian
Headlines 5.05 Culrm Ciolnes, 9.50 Grampian
Weather, 11.55 Liza and Friends,
GRAMADA:

GRANADA: 1.05 Granada News 1.10 Kick Off, 1.30 Isn't Life Wonderfull (1952) 1.00 Granada Sport Action. 5.00 Granada News 5.10 Granada Goals Extra. 11.55 Liza and Friends. HTV: 1.05 HTV News. 1.10 McCloud: Our Man in

Paris. 2.10 Hawmps! (1976) 4.20 Cartoon Time 5.00 HTV News and Sport 9.50 HTV Weather 11.55 Liza and Friends. HTV Wales as HTV excepts

1.05 Meridian News. 1.10 Crack in the World. (1965) 5.00 Meridian News. 5.05 Sahırday Sport. 11.55 Liza and Friends.

11.55 Liza and Frances.
SCOTTISH:

1.05 Scotland Today. 1.10 Laverne and Shirley.
1.40 Speaking Our Language. 2.10 Elvis: Good Rockin' Tonight. 2.40 Carry On Jack. (1963) 4.25
The Box. 5.40 Scotsport Results. 5.15 Celebrity Squares. 6.45 Scotland Today 9.50 Scotlish Weather. 11.55 Liza and Friends.

Weamer. 11.95 Liza and Friends.
1.05 Tyne Tees News, 1.10 The A-Team. 2.05
Lost in London. (TVM 1985) 3.45 McCloud: This
Must be the Alamo, 5.00 Tyne Tees Saturday.
11.55 Liza and Friends.

ULSTER: 11.30 You're On. 1.05 UTV Live Lunchtime News 1.10 Saturday Sport. 1.20 Transworld Sport. 2.20 Cartoon. 2.25 The A-Team. 3.20

Sport. 2.20 Cartoon. 2.25 The A-Team. 3.29 Movies, Movies, Movies, 3.50 Wrestling. 5.00 UTV Live News 5.05 Saturday Sport. 9.50 UTV Live Evening News 11.55 Liza and Friends. WESTCOUNTRY!
11.30 Anybody Out There? 1.05 Westcountry Weekend Lakest 1.19 55 Days at Peking. (1952) 4.09 Out of Limits. 4.10 Movies, Movies, Movies. 5.00 Westcountry Weekend Latest. 11.55 Liza and Friends. Vigorary Movies. 5.00 Westcountry Weekend Latest. 11.55 Liza and Friends.

VORKSHIRE:

1.95 Calendar News, 1.10 The A-Yeam, 2.05
Lost in London, (TVM 1865) 3.48 McCloud: This
Must be the Alamo, 5.00 Calendar News, 9.50
Local Weather, 11.56 Liza and Friends,

SUNDAY

6.00 GMTV. 9.25 The Disney Ctub. 16.45 Link. 11.00 Morning Worship. 12.00 The Package Pil-grims. 12.30 pm Crosstalk, with guest Charles Kennedy, proceiding of the Liberal Package.

1.00 ITN News; Weather.

in the USA.

adise (1973). Bright Lights, I

2.00 Bullseye.

2.30 The Smurts

1.10 Walden. Brian Walden asks

Prosstalk, with guest of the Liberal De

Shadow Transport Secretary John Prescott whether his party

can learn anything from the suc-cess of Bill Clinton's Democrats

2.45 it's Tough to be a Bird. The story of the bird's never-ending fight for survival and its contribution to

2.10 Film: McCloud: A Cowboy in Par-

attractions of the Victorian stage

was the beauty contest, where the parade of revealingly-clad women could cause a riot. The

stage before the promiscuous 1980s. programme looks at sexuality on

5.30 Wish You Were Here? Judith Chalmers visits Orlando. Michael Aspel and his wife Elizabeth

on a short break in Madrid. 6.00 London Tonight; Weather. 6.20 ITN News; Weather.

6.30 Film: The Jewel of The Nile. Starring Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner and Danny DeVito (1985).
8.30 You've Been Framedi
9.00 Agatha Christle's Polirot.

series. Melvyn Bragg presents the dark history behind Dracula,

the vampire count created by Bram Stoker in 1897.

President of CND Bruce Kent, businesswoman Jenny Kirkpa-trick and Canon John Atherton

debate which should come first

morality or the economic mar-

11.50 The James Whale Question, Vice

1.20 Get Stuffed; ITN News Headlines.

3.25 Get Stuffed; ITN News Headlines.

RADIO

10.00 Hale and Pace. New series.

10.30 ITN News; Weather. 10.45 London Tonight; Weather. 10.50 The South Bank Show. New

12.20 Cue the Music.

2.25 Summerrock

3.30 Snooker.

1.25 TXT.

Power (Mrs Hewitt in EastEnders)

take their family on a holiday in Sardinia, and John Carter reports

7.25 High Chaparral. 8.15 Breakfast with Frost 9.15 The Good Book Guide. 9.30 This is the Day. 10.00 See Hear! 10.30 Help Your Child with Reading. 10.45 Italiantseimo. 11.00 Career-ing Ahead. 11.30 Off the Back of a Lorry.

12.00 Advice Shop. Information and advice on benefits, pensions and

BBC1

public services.

12.30 CountryFile. 12.55 Weather for the Week Ahead; 1.00 On the Record. Secretary of State for Transport John MacGregor explains his plans for the privati-

sation of the rail network. 3.00 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley. Norwich v Tottenham Hotspur in the fourth round of the

FA Cup - live coverage from Carrow Road. looks at some of the annual

designers and manufacturers. 5.25 Antiques Roadshow. Hugh Scully and the experts value Irish silver, a collection of watches, a Georgian silver wine funnel and a Sutherland table with fine marquetry decoration. From Chester-field, Derbyshire.

6.10 News; Weather.
6.25 Songs of Praise. Martyn Lewis meets Ireland's four main church leaders and learns how they tackle the problems of violence and social deprivation. From St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast. 7.00 As Time Goes By.

7.30 Lovejoy. 8.20 So Haunt Me. 8.50 News; Weather. 9.05 Gailowglass.

10.30 Heart of the Matter. Joan Bakewell examines whether the question marks over the Prince of Wales' marriage should re-open ment of the church from the monarchy. Among those voicing their opinions are the the Bishops of Durham and York, Norman Tebbit and Tony Benn.

11.05 What Shall We Tell the Children?
Talking to children about sexual-

11.25 Famously Fluent. The Nolan

Sisters take a course in Japanese.
11.30 Doogle Howser, MD.
11.55 Tanhalyan. (English subtitles).
12.35 Weather.

12.40 Close

BBC2

Stewart (1984).

1.20 Close.

7.30 Tales of a Wise King and the Devil. 7.35 Felix the Cat. 7.45 Playdays. 8.18 Smoggies! 8.35 Opposites Attract. 8.50 Christopher Crocodile. 8.55 Superbods. 9.15 The Animals of Farthing Wood. 9.40 Time Busters. 10.05 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles. 18.30 Maid Marlan and Her Merry Men. 10.35 Blue Peter Omnibus. 11.45 The O Zone. 12.00 Thunderbirds. 12.50 cm. The Jacobers.

1.40 Tex Avery Triple Bill.

2.00 Around Westminster. 2.30 Millennium: Tribai Wisdom and the Modern World. Visiting the Dogon and the Wodaabe tribes of

West Africa. 3.25 Tender, Slender and Tall. 3.55 If a a Small World.

4.05 Crubs 1993 4.36 Ski Sunday. The Men's Downhill from Wengen, Switzerland. 5.10 Rugby Special. Waterloo v Orrell in the fourth round of the Pilking-

ton Cup. 6.10 The Natural World. Exploring the Kimberley region of Australia. 7,00 The Money Programme. Peter Wilson-Smith examines the pressures for change at the Bank of England, which appoints a new governor this month. 7.40 Adventurers. New series. A year

in the life of the Slough-based company Grosvenor Venture Managers Ltd, and the busis who come to it for financial backing.

8.20 Dencing. Exploring the relation-ship between dance and religious 9.20 Did You See? With Richard

Ingrams, editor of The Oldle, poet/writer Liz Lochhead and cabaret artist Kit Hesketh-Harvey. They review 8BC1's Entertainment Express, BBC2's The Essential History of Europe - The Essential History of Europe - The United Kingdom and the very last episode of ITV's Inspector Morse.

10.00 Film: Edward II. Director Derek Jarman's award-winning adapta-tion of Christopher Marlowe's 16th century drama, updated to the modern day as an attack on prejudice in contemporary Britain (1991). 11.30 Later with Jools Holland.

12.30 Film: Cobra Verde. Starring Klaus Kinski as a 19th century Brazilian bandit sent to Africa to begin slave trading (1968).

CHANNEL4 $\mathsf{L}\mathsf{W}\mathsf{T}$

1.15 Football Italia. Today's live game is Lazio y Juventus. 3.30 Film: Abroad with Two Yanks.
Lively comedy about a group of

marines on the loose in Australia. Starring William Bend Helen Walker (1944). 5.00 Gerald McBoing on the Planet

Moo. Cartoon. 5.10 News. 5.15 High Interest: The Great Japanese Bubble. In the 1980s, Japan was an economic titan, but the country is now in recession. John Plender looks at what this means

and the rest of the world. 6.00 Moviewatch, Reviewing Night in the City, starring Robert de Niro ure City, starring Hobert de Niro and Jessica Lange, and Passen-ger 57, plus a look at Francis Ford Coppola's Dracula and Inter-views with some of the stars in the film.

6.30 The Wonder Years. 7.00 Tears of the Dragon. The final programme in the series explores the environmental side effects of industrialisation on China. Shanghai is one of the most densely populated areas on Earth and in Hainan, the rubber plantations have ripped out the heart of the rural landscape, and protected species such as the green turtle are openly sold on

the tourist beaches. 8.00 The Tilting Ground. Introducing new movements in Scottish instrumental music. 9.00 Film: The Abyss. Fantasy adven-

ture in which a group of divers encounter an underwater UFO and its crew while searching for a sunken submarine (1989). 11.35 On the Other Hend: India at the Crocssroads. Prancy Roy, Indian television's top political journal-

ist, presents this special edition about the upsurge of communal violence in India's cities. In a discussion, filmed in Delhi, a panel of five top politicians, represent-ing all major factions, answers estions from a studio audience. 12.40 Film: The Night Is Young (1986).(English subtitle

2.50 Close

REGIONS ITY REGIONS AS LONDON EXCEPT AT THE

FOLLOWING TIMES ANGLIA: 12.30 Food Guids, 12.55 Anglia News, 2.00 Ca. toon Time. 2.10 Highway to Heaven. 3.10 Mort Wild Wild West. (TVM 1980) 5.00 The Village Show. 5.20 Bullseys. 6.00 Anglia News on Sun day 10.45 Local Weather.

12.30 Gardener's Diary. 12.55 Border News 2.00 Wish You Were Here? 2.36 Soccer Sixes 5.36 Bullsaye. 8.90 The Border Week. 6.15 Bor-

12.36 Gardening Time. 12.65 Central News 2.00 El Cid. (1961) 5.66 Bullseye. 5.39 Highway to Heaven, 6.15 Central News CHANNEL:

CHARMELI
12.30 Rellections. 12.35 Rendez-Vous
Dimanche. 12.50 Telejornal. 2.00 Highway to
Heaven. 2.55 Cartoon. 3.00 The Prince and the
Pauper. (1962) 5.15 Bullseye. 5.45 I Can Do
That. 6.15 Channel News. GRAMPIAN: 10.45 Cartoon Time. 11.00 The Sunday Service.

11.45 Link. 12.30 Gardener's Diary. 12.55 Grampian Headlines. 2.00 Wish You Were Here? 2.30 Soccer Sixes. 5.30 Bullseye. 8.00 Grampian Headlines 8.05 Elixon. GRANADA: 12.25 What the MPs Sey. 12.55 Granada News 2.00 The A-Team. 2.55 A Time to Triumph. (TVM 1988) 4.45 Bullseye. 5.15 Coronation Street. 8.15 Granada News

HTV:

12.25 HTV News. 12.30 HTV Newsweek. 2.00
WCW Worldwide Wrestling. 2.50 55 Days at
Peking. (1962) 5.45 Bullseye. 6.15 HTV News.
18.46 HTV Weather.
HTV Water as HTV except:
12.30 Playback.
MERIPDANE.
12.30 Meridian This Week. 12.50 Meridian
News. 2.00 Highway to Heaven. 2.55 Cantoon.
3.60 The Prince and the Pauper. (1962) 5.15
Bullseye. 5.45 I Can Do Thai. 6.15 Meridian
News.

SCOTTISH SCOTTISM:
10.45 Wemyss Bay 902101. 11.39 Link. 11.45
The Sunday Service. 12.30 The Package Pil-grims. 12.55 Scotland Today. 2.00 Scottlah Cuestions. 2.30 Scoter Sixes. 6.30 Bullsaye. 8.00 Scotland Today 8.05 Elkon. 10.45 Scottlah

Weather.

TYME TEES:

12.25 The Littlest Hobo. 12.50 Tyne Tees News.
2.00 Daniel Boone and the Warrior's Path. 2.55
The Vengeance of She. (1956) 4.50 Dinosaurs.
5.20 Bullseys. 8.50 Tyne Tees Today.

U.STER:
13.55 Capricolog. Tyne. 13.55 LITY Live Liveb.

ULSTER:
12.25 Gardening Time. 12.55 UTV Live Lunch-time News 2.00 Police Str. 2.05 Bon Voyage. 2.35 The Thief of Damascus. (1963) 4.15 Glen-roe. 4.45 Bullseye. 5.15 Coronation Street. 8.10 Witness. 6.15 UTV Live Early Evening News

Witness. 6.15 UTV Live Early Evening News WESTCOUNTRY:
12.30 West Wise. 12.55 Westcountry Weekend Latest. 2.00 Westcountry Update. 2.30 Lost in London. (TVM 1985) 4.15 The Westcountry Match. 4.45 Bullseye. 5.15 Heart of the Country. 3.45 Members Only. 8.15 Westcountry Weekend Latest.
YORKSHERE:
12.25 The Littlest Hobo. 12.50 Calendar News. 2.00 Daniel Boone and the Warrior's Path. 2.53 The Vengeance of She. (1968) 4.50 Dinosaurs.

SUNDAY

SATURDAY

BBC RADIO 2 BBC RADIO 2
6.00 Barbara Sturgeon. 8.05
Srian Matthew. 19.00 Anne
Robinson. 12.00 Brian Hayes
on Seturday. 1.30 Pull the
Other One. 2.00 Ronnie
Hillion. 3.00 Steve Racs. 4.00
The Hare and Tortoise. 8.00
Cinema. 2. 5.30 Nick
Barraclough's New Country.
8.00 The World Dances. 7.90
The Boishol in London. 8.30
David Jacobs. 10.00 Arts
Programme. 12.05 Ronnie
Hillion. 1.00 Charles Nove. Programme. 12.05 Ronnie Hilton. 1.00 Charles Nove. 4.00 Barbara Sturgeon.

BBC RADIO 3 8.55 Weather. 7.00 Record Review. 1.00 News. 1.65 Australia Ens 2.25 Bryn Terfel. 3.00 The Kousse Legacy.
5.00 Live from the Met: Die Meistersinger von Nürmberg
10.30 Third Opinion.

BBC RADIO 4 6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 The Farming We 8.50 Prayer for the Day. 7,00 Today. 9,60 News. 9,05 Sport on 4.

9.30 Breakaway.

11.00 The Week in 11.36 From Our Own 12.25 Just a Minutel 1.00 News. 1.10 Any Questions? 2.00 Any Answers? 071-580 2.30 Playhouse.

5.25 The Art of Travel. 8.00 News and Sports Round-Up. 8.25 Week Ending. 6.50 Postcard from Gotham. 9.28 Music in Mind. 9.50 Ten to Ten. 16.00 News. 10.15 The Year in Question. 10.45 Idle Thoughts. 11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes. 11.30 Sex in the Head.

BBC RADIO 5 6.00 World Service: 6.30 Mark Curry's Weekend g,30 Get Set. 10.30 Tales of the Texas

12.80 Sport on 4 Plus 1.

12.30 Sportscall 1.30 Sport on Five. 5.00 Sports Report. 8.06 Six-O-Six. 8.30 Le Top. 10.60 Sports Bulletin.

10.15 On the Level.

12.00 Close.

WORLD SERVICE
88C for Europe can be
received in Western Europe
on Medium Wave 648 kHZ
(463m) at the following times
GMT: GAST:
6.08 News; The World Today.
6.30 Programmes in French.
7.50 Newsdesk: 7.30 People and Politics. 8.80 News; Words of Faith; A Jolly Good

11.00 Newsdesk. 11.36 BBC English. 11.45 Bits again. News In German. 12.00 News; Words of Faith. 12.15 Multitrack 3. 7.00 Opera: Gluseppe Verdi-Augustus. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 Newshour. 2.00 Club 849. 10.00 Clessic America. 12.45 Sportsworld Usew. 2.30 Sportsworld Sportsworld continued. 4.00 Classic Cold. 12.00 Andre Leon. 12.00 Andre Leon. 12.00 Andre Leon. 12.00 Classic CD Chart News; News About Britain; Rundown. 12.00 Classic America. 12.00 Classic America.

Headlines in French. 4.39
Programmes in Garman.
5.00 News Summary:
Sportsworld. 5.39
Programmes in French. 6.09
Newsdesk. 6.39 Programmes
in German. 6.09 News;
Personal View; Words of
Faith. 8.30 European
Sports News. 9.80 Newshour.
10.09 News; Merddian, 18.45
Sports Roundup. 11.00 News;
Words of Faith; Spock Choice;
A Jolly Good Shaw. 12.09
Newsdesk. 12.30 The Ken
Bruce Show. 1.80 News Bruce Show. 1.90 News Summary; Play of the Week: Butterfiles Don't Count. 2.00

Butterfiles Don't Count 2.00 Newsdesk; Task Force Orient 3.00 News; News About Britain. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 From Our Correspondent. 3.50 Write On. 4.00 News. 4.15 Under Threat. 4.30 Business Review. 4.45 Programmes in German. and Politics. 8.80 News; Write On. 4.15 Words of Faith; A Jolly Good Under Threat. 4.30 Business Report; Worldbrief. 8.30 Personal View. 9.45 Sports Roundup. 10.00 News Summary; Jazz Now and Then; Letter From America. 10.30 Wavaguide; Book Choice; From The Weekles. 11.00 Newsdesk. 11.30 BBC Lassic CD Chart Rundown. 11.00 Newsdesk. 11.30 BBC Lassic CD Chart Rundown. 11.01 News In News In News In 2.00 Classic America.

BBC RADICO 2
7.00 Don Maclean. 3.05 John
Sachs. 10.30 Brian Hayes on
Sunday. 12.00 Deamond
Carrington. 2.00 Senny
Green. 3.08 Alan Deli, 4.00
Sidney Torch. 4.30 Sing
Something Simple. 5.00
Charlie Chester. 7.00
Richard Baker. 8.30 Sunday
Half Hour. 3.00 Alan Kelft.
10.00 Aris Programme. 12.05
Nick Barraciough's New
Country. 12.35 Charles Nove.
3.00 Alex Lester. BBC RADIO 2 BBC RADIO 3

9.00 News. 9.05 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning, 12.09 Spirit of the Age. 1.00 News. 1.05 Selected Poets. 1.20 From the Proms 1992 3.05 Boulez in Birminghat 4.45 Maggini Quartet. 5.45 A Taste for the New. 6.30 Tatlana Nikolaeva. 10.30 Music in Our Time 12.30 News. 12.35 Close. **BBC RADIO 4**

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Prejude.

6.30 Morning Has Broken. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm.

6.55 Weather. 7.00 Sunday Morning

7.40 Sunday. 8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers. 8.50 Julie Christie. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from Ame 9.30 Member Sandee 11,30 Pick of the Week 12.15 Desert Island Dis 12.15 Desert Island Discs.
1.00 The World This
Weskend.
2.00 Gardeners' Question
Time.
2.30 Classic Serial.
3.30 Immortal Diamonds.
4.00 Wide Awake in Ireland.
4.47 Wescome to My
Wireless.

5.30 Poetry Pleasel 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Loss of Innocence. 6.30 Word of Mouth. 7.66 God in the Palaces. 7.36 Bookshelf. 8.60 Fourth Column Classi 8.39 Living Dangerously. 8.00 The Natural History 9.30 Special Assignment. 18.00 News. 18.15 The Memoirs of Sheriock Holmes. 11.00 in Committee.

11.38 Seeds of Faith. 12.09 News. 12.38 Close. BBC RADIO 5 6.00 World Service:

9.30 The Dream Friend. Sunday Brunch.
1.48 Open Forum.
2.00 Body Talk.
2.30 Sunday Sport.
5.30 Where Were \ **5.00** A Century

> WORLD SERVICE WORLD SERVICE:
> BBC for Europe can be
> received in Western Europe
> on Medium Wave 548 tht2
> (483m) at the following times
> GMT:
> 6.00 News; Letter From
> America E.30 Programmes

in German. 8.00 News; Folk Routes; Words of Fath. 8.36 Europe Tonight. 9.00 News; Meridian. 10.46 Sports Roundup. 11.00 News; Business Review; Classics with Kay. 12.00 Newsdeek. 12.30 in Praise Of God. 1.00 News Summary; What's News? 1.15 East Meets West. 1.46 Musical Mavericks. 2.80 Newsdeek. 2.80 Composer Of The Month: Manuel de Falla. 3.00 News; News About Britain. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Anything Goes. 4.00 World News. 4.15 Poets And Places. 4.30 Waveguide. 4.45 Programmes in German.

Programmes in German. 5.00 News and Business Review. 5.15 Club 848, 5.30

Programmes in Franch 6.00 Newadesk 6.30 Programmes in German. 8.00 News; Folk

6.00 Sarah Lucas. 9.00 Classic Romance. 12.00 CD Request. 2.09 Celebrity Choice. 3.00 Robert Booth,

10.00 Contemporary

poised before today's ninth game. Nigel Short and Jan Timman are level at 4-4 with

CHESS

champlonship candi-

dates final at El

Escorial, Spain. It is delicately

If it was a boxing match, the

referee would judge Timman

slightly ahead on points. He

took an early lead when Short

blundered a knight in game

The fifth hour of came five

proved a turning point. Tim-

then, still with serious winning

displayed renewed confidence.

twice drawing easily as Black

and crushing Short in the seventh game (J Timman, White;

N Short, Black; Ruy Lopez; 7th

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4

Bxc6 dxc6 5 0-0 Qd6 6 Na3 Be6

7 Qe2! f6 8 Rd1 g5? White's

six games left.

exploited errors.

of the match.

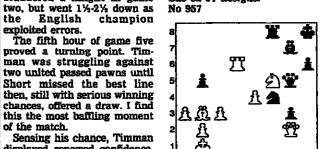
game 1993).

cxd5 13 exd5 Bf7 14 c4 Qd7 15 d6l Qc6 16 c5 Nh6 17 b4 Qa4 18 Nc4 Rd7 19 Na5 c6 Cuts the queen's retreat, but he must stop c5-c6. 20 Nd3 Nf5 21 a3 Kh8 22 Nb2 Ob5 23 Oct Nxc3 24 (xe3 Bh6 25 Kh1 h4 26 a4 Qxa5 Black should give up here. 27 bxa5 g3 28 h3 Bg5 29 Nd3 Ka8 30 Rab1 Re8 31 Rb6 Bd5 32 e4 Resigns.

this reply starts a wild pawn

lunge, 8 . . . c5 is hetter, 9 d4 g4

10 Ne1 0-0-0 11 Be3 h5 12 d5



abcdeigh M Adams v J Hodgson, Hoogovens 1993. A tricky position from a current tournament: with White to move, who wins?

Solution Page XIX

previous move was new but Leonard Barden

TODAY'S hand from teams-offour shows poor thinking by one defender and superb defence, based on intelligent reasoning by his opposite num-

ber. Here is Into the Lion's Mouth: **♦**83 ♥ A Q J 5 ♣ Q J 10 9 W A 4 2 S ♠ KQJ ♥ K74

🛊 K 8 6 3 With North-South vulnerable North dealt and opened the

bidding with one club. South replied with two no trump, and North raised to three. West led the six of spades. In room one the ace won the

five to South's king. The

declarer played a club, and

West took the second round

with the ace. Now no return

trick, South producing the knave, and East returned the

BRIDGE could prevent South from getting home with two spades. four hearts, and three clubs, East said he hoped that West's spades might have been headed by the queen. But if that was so, West would surely require an entry to enjoy them.

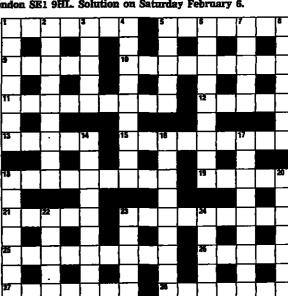
And if West did have that entry, it could have been put to This was realised by the East in the other room. After identical bidding South was again in three no trumps. Winning the spade lead. East started to do his homework. He placed South with king, queen, knave of spades, the heart king, and either ace or king of clubs, not both of those honours. West, then, could get in before the declarer could gather in nine tricks. The winning defence was clear. East led back the diamond three into the tenace in dummy. The knave won, declarer cashed four hearts. and played the queen of clubs from the table. West won at once, and the diamond return

defeated the contract. It is the thought that counts.

E P Cotter

CROSSWORD

No. 8,058 Set by CINEPHILE A prize of a classic Pelikan Souveran 800 fountain pen, inscribed with the winner's name for the first correct solution opened and five runner-up prizes of £35 Pelikan vouchers. Solutions by Wednesday February 3, marked Crossword 8,058 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, Number One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Saturday February 6.



Address **ACROSS**

1 Wimp gets all he can from work (7) 5 Sort of gag that excludes draughts? (7)
9 Blows that may be shot? (5)

19 Alt's going wrong? Bang on track! (3.6) ing nothing? (5)
23 Elegant instruction to slow down It Standing up to authority - nothing left in it - leaves off in consequence (9)

12 Jute article at tall of talliess Solution to Puzzle No.8,057 PAROLE AVERAGED
A E I U I E O O
RECREAMYS FLINNI
T T U L I E N A
IIVAN GOATHANGER
C N T C O C D
LOGSOOK RATIFY
E L U I O H
BELLOW ADVERSE
S B R L E A
TABERNACLE LIST
O A I P U C G H
LUCID PERCHANCE
I O G E I E N
DANSEURS I CARUS
Solution and winners of beast (5)

13 Health worker among athletes running backwards (5)
15 Faced with fist, turning to make an enemy (9) 18 Reef knot: sever raggedly in irregular lines (4,5)

19 Legally a possible casus belli?

rassment (5)
23 Company that performs for religious education by means of "The Sack of Troy" (9) 25 Mafia leader returned to battle, a disaster for the Italians (9) 26 No.2 would be officer (5) 27 (Climbing) with a gradient lik that of a church lower? (7) 28 Earn an old penny by sever

21 Hanging causes some embar-

reorganisation (7) DOWN Ancient kingdom gave symbol of authority to scademic (7)
 Sentence for the establishment is what keeps us going (4,5) 3 Ropemaker from Wales is a

likely lad (5) Source of poison to put on in a steam train (4-5) steam train (4-5)
5 Strength of small probability (5)
6 Fifty fifth rug apolled, which is extremely distressing (9)
7 Stuff to fit inside a ship (5)

8 Depending on rall net-work? (7) 14 Listen: part of roof's coming 16 The lady gets a short letter (French) written with ancient pen

17 Add detail to needlework or

M.S. Hughes, Esher, Surrey; Mrs C.J. Kramer, East Horsley, MIS C.J. Atlaner, East Forsiey, Surrey: L. Law, Halesowen, West Midlands; Mrs Lynn Lightfoot, Hoole, Cheshire; D.H. Moss, Edin-burgh; Mrs P.E. Turgoose, Chil-well, Nottingham

CICERO FASTFOOD
NEEDLES SADDLER
E A E W I D E I
RARE GAUNTLETED
A A S N T T E
MINUTE THEWASH
A C A C E I N P
PERGOLA UNFALR
S N A U K B O
OUTPATIENT REIS
U B T W G D P
STAMINA ENLARGE
E C O N D E U C
DETONATE HELLET

Solution and winners of

Puzzle No.8.046

18 Saint almost gone off among

females (7) 20 Fourth note taken from French

22 Asian currency for Europe lack-

ds (7)

revolutionary: that's all a baby

10.15 The Arch 11.15 News Sta

Wireless. 5.00 John Cole in the Lakes.

Newshour. 6.30 Mark Curry's Weekend

News Summary. 2.01 This is Your Sport. 2.30 Anything Goes. 3.00 News. 3.15 Concert Hall. 4.00 News; News About Britain. 4.15 BBC English. 4.29 News Headlines in French. 4.30 Frogrammes in German. 10.99 Johnnie Walker. 11.30 Fantasy Football League. 12.30 Simon Fansha

Remembered. 6.30 Education Matters. 7.15 How We Worked Then. 7.36 Italianissimo. 7.36 Italianssimo. 8.00 Language Live. 9.30 Box 13. 10.16 Across the Line. 12.00 Closs.

6.00 News; Letter From America. 8.30 Programmes in French. 7.00 Newsdesk. 7.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 7.50 Write On. 8.00 News; Words of Fath; Classics with Key. 9.00 News; Bulness Review. 9.15 Short Story: Silk Dress. 9.30 Folk Routes. 9.45 Sports Roundup. 10.00 News Summary; Science in Action. 10.30 In Praise of God. 11.00 Newsdesk: BBC English. Newsdesk; BBC English.
11.45 News and British Press
Review in German. 12.00
News Summary. 12.01 Play
of the Week: Butterflies Don't

CLASSIC FM

Clessics. 12.09 Andre Leon.



plaints Commission, so trenchantly rubbished by Sir David Calcutt's report on press and privacy, seems still to show signs of

This week it invited Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, to complain to it about the publication of tape recordings alleged to be between the heir to the throne and Mrs Camilla Parker Bowles.

The Prince, of course, will do no such thing. His advisers over recent years may not have been the most brilliantly perceptive of their gen-eration of Sandhurst graduates but even the most inbred of equerries is surely not so moronic as to plunge the Prince voluntarily into further controversy with the press.

ATIONALITY,

race, religion:

sometimes these

labels seem to serve only as a

It is, besides, condescending of

pretext for murder, or for war.

besieged capital of Bosnia-

self Bosnian. Emotionally, she

said: 'Who do you sit with?' I

said: 'Duna, a Croat girl.' So I

said I was Croat. When I was

12 they asked me again. My

mother said: 'Who are you sit-

ting with?" I was sitting with

Svetlana, so I wrote down

"Finally we were able to call ourselves Yugoslavs. So I

became Yugoslav for the rest

of my life. I couldn't say I was

Moslem because that was a

religion and we weren't reli-

Her husband interrupted.

"Moslem is an unhappy name.

You could never have found a

more tolerant version of Islam

anywhere in the world than in

Bosnia. These people are Slavs.

They are not descendants of

Turks. They are as pure Slavs

as you can be in the Balkans.

And all the Moslems, or most

of them, consider themselves

be taking place. Feeling

betrayed, feeling left alone for

slaughter, the previously docile

Moslems could really become

Sarajevo. The couple met there

while working for Bosnian tele-

vision. In 1969 he secured a

four-year contract with the

BBC World Service in London,

where the pair married and

where their two children were

born. Because of that, they

Sarajevo to evacuate their chil-

dren in 1991. Mebrura, learning

she was on two death lists.

escaped last April. Majo, after

months living in the TV build-

ing under shell and sniper fire,

where he filed over 100 reports

for the western media, secured

are due to meet again in Geneva to discuss the proposed

Bosnia-Hercegovina along

ethnic and religious lines. For

Mebrura and Majo Topolovac,

however, this is an ex post

facto solution. The civil war, they say, was not caused by

racial or religious tensions:

those were merely the

instruments deployed, with the

help of sycophantic journalists,

for power-grabbing by a

corrupt and opportunist

a UN pass last August. Today the warring parties

cantonisation

were able after returning to

vac was horn

what is called fundamentalist."

"But a terrible thing could

to be part of Europe.

gious in any way."

Hercegovina.

feels English.

Mebrura is a Moslem, her husband Majo a Serb. They are well-educated, middle-class ref-ugees from Sarajevo, the

The Prince of Wales, says Dominic Lawson, is not taken in by all the tabloid fairy tales unintelligent life. Lord McGregor, the accident prone chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, to imply that the

> They had decided months ago. when the Daily Mirror first revealed the existence of the tapes, that to take any action against newspapers considering publication of them, on grounds of an invasion of privacy, would be to acknowledge that the tapes were genuine. For it is not far-fetched to suggest

that most ordinary people - that

Prince and his staff would not

already have considered and

rejected such a spicidal course of

is, those who do not write for or run newspapers - regard what they read in the tabloid press as fantasy. Often hugely enjoyable fantasy, but fantasy nonetheless.

The coverage of the Royal family in particular has come so much to resemble a soap opera, that most readers will be too bemused and confused to know what is real. what is based on reality, and what is sheer fiction.

The soap opera effect is greatly enhanced by the press's increasing tendency to cover the lives of fictional television characters as if they were real people. This week

even the serious broadsheet press carried on their news pages reports of the fate of a an invented television detective called Chief Inspector Morse. As for the tabloid papers, they had whole pages devoted to convincing their readers that, somehow, Chief Inspector Morse is a real person, rather than just a lucrative part of the reper-

Charles understands the Morse code

toire of the actor John Thaw. This tendency of the press to write about television characters as if they were real people is merely an exploitation of popular wishful thinking. We have always warmed to the story-teller's art of confusing fact and fiction. The success of such long-running radio series as The Archers is precisely because many listeners regard the script-writers' inventions as the dialogue of real people, overheard, as if through a particularly porous neighbour's

he Prince of Wales's advisers should take heart from this phenomenon. Indeed so should the whole Royal family. They should – if they do not already - recognise that there are two public views of them, coexisting, but mutually

First, there is what the public see at Royal occasions: processional, full of pomp and circumstance. immaculately choreographed by centuries of tradition. This looks and is real (indeed the public can go and watch it) even though it is denounced by such Labour MPs as

Jack Straw and Marjorie Mowlem as out of place, not of this century. Second, there is the Royal family as it is written about in the popular press. This is not real, because it is not tangible, it does not correspond to what we see of the royal family on our television screens, in offi-

cially sanctioned programmes such as Elizabeth R. Such programmes are denounced by the new realists as a public relations gloss, a deception upon the public. But they are far more powerful in forming the public image than any amount of hostile investigative journalism.

Newspapers are right to pander to the television image of Chief inspector Morse: they know that the public believes what it sees, not what it reads. So the Prince of Wales is right to steer well clear of the Press Complaints Commission That is part of the world of fantasy which has not got the power it thinks it has to take away his right to the throne. Instead he should continue to stick to processions. grand gala openings, and polo. That is the real world, or at least the one we all want to believe in. Dominic Lawson is Editor of The Spectator.

radi miss may be re to no-fly z

Private View/Christian Tyler

Refugees from a city where the wrong badge means death



The couple are vociferous in their analysis of the causes of have grandfathers, especially the Yugoslav bloodbath but in Serbia, with their grandthey seem helpless to comprehend its brutality. They concede, however, that history played some part.

call the grandfathers' war. You children on their knees whispering in their ears: 'We have to pay them back, these Moslems, these Turks, these

view of history, their unfulfilled hatreds which they learned from their own

grandfathers."
His wife said: "It all really depended on the way you were brought up. In my case, I was

her eyes by the Ustashe (Croat fascists) - but I was told only when I was 25 or 26. She could have brought me up hating Croats. She could have brought me up religious. But she

Majo said: "On my father's side, 42 males were killed in the last war, the youngest a child of two and a half, mostly by Ustashe but also by Chetniks (Serb nationalists). That was because my family were anti-Nazi, anti-fascist not really pro-communist but

pro-socialist. "Yet I was never brought up to hate. I was not told that Croats killed my father: it was the Ustashe. It's very important to draw this distinction between ordinary Serbs and these extremists. Even if 100,000 Serbs are involved in this war, what about the other 9,900,000 who are not?"

Ethnic tensions were whipped up by propaganda, said Mebrura, in what she called a "media war". Objectivity was abandoned, journalists took sides, and the public was fed a diet of preposterous lies - for example, that Moslems had been feeding Serb babies to the lions in Sarajevo 200. Some of these journalists, Mebrura said, should be tried as war

So who started the war, I "Ask yourself who hopes to

old opportunist members of the Communist Party. It was the only way for them to stay in It was an opportunist war

exploiting a peasant mentality. "During the shelling of the water queue in Sarajevo, one magnificent old man shouted up to the hills in Serbo-Croat: 'You peasant!' He didn't despise peasants as such, what he meant was this mean mentality that allows you to shell even a water queue."

"It's what rural life can do to civilised people," said Mebrura. "You call it a civil war. Actually it is a war by uncivilised people against civilised people, by peasant, illiterate crooks and gangsters attacking normal, intelligent, civilised people."

Her husband twisted his head to the side and drew his hand across his throat: "They are peasants who kill people like killing pigs. In fact, they are trained to kill like that."

Mebrura and Majo Topolovac may be accused of having a partial view. They are a couple. Outside her radio and

television work Mebrura has trained as an actress and fashion designer and she paints in her spare time. Majo has written plays and won prizes for his children's stories. They were both admirers of

> Communists. Mebrura said: "To my mind the only mistake Tito and the Communist Party made was that after the war we should have all declared ourselves Yugoslavs and had our religions if we wanted. It was ridiculous to have to declare

Tito, though not practising

your nationality as if it was equivalent to your religion." Are you sorry Communism

situation was so clear that 'It is a war ... by peasant, illiterate crooks and gangsters attacking

really feel we belong here. We always looked on England as

the Old Country. We felt emotionally English. We are

terribly pro-British and pro-Royal family. Nationality is

what one feels oneself to be

deep inside. It's a matter of

emotional choice, like choosing

one's wife. You just feel it's

her. We should never have

I asked them whether.

therefore, they understood the

west's hesitancy about military

intervention to break the siege

"It's totally incom-prehensible," Mebrura said.
"In the beginning the

Majo replied: "No. I think it was a better alternative than this senseless killing. But no, it was a dead end - as practised

normal, intelligent, civilised people'

there, anyway.' They both agreed that war was made possible by the weakness of the federation after the 1974 constitution that gave republics virtual statehood. It had been launched by opportunist politicians and crooked businessmen as a cover for their corruption, and reinforced by the confiscation of some \$12bn (£7.8bn) of hard-currency savings mostly

accumulated by Yugoslavs working overseas. Now they are in exile themselves and drawing the dole in a cheap flat in north

"I think I lived here in my previous life," said Mebrura. Majo, always the more restless and talkative, chipped in: "We anyone in their right mind would have intervened. If they had silenced the artillery round Sarajevo last April or

May that would have stopped

the war. The Serb extremists had already lost the war, said her husband, because they were overstretched and undermanned. They were now hoping to buy time to gather themselves for the push against Kosovo, possibly Macedonia, and later against Albania and Bulgaria. That Russia, Turkey and the Islamic nations - we would see an "Orthodox jihad" against Moslems and Catholics.

I pointed out that western governments were unwilling to risk their soldiers' lives in a war their electorates did not understand. Should our soldiers be ready to die under a

Mebrura answered: "Nobody likes that soldiers are killed. but soldiers are for that. That's why they have decided it's going to be their job. I wouldn't like any soldier to die, but yes, I think so."

What has this whole experience taught you?
"I think this should be said." Majo replied. "Now I know that what is considered to be impossible is actually possible. No one really believed that such atrocities could take

"Now I know how thin this crust of what we call civilisation is, now thin and how fragile. We all thought it was impossible in Yugoslavia. We all think it's impossible in Europe. But Hitler was only 50

"Civilisation is just thin ice and you can so easily fall through that ice into this murky and turbid water of mutual killing, which is endless if not stopped. This is the main lesson I draw."

Mebrura was reflecting while her husband spoke. She said: "I am just saddened

that cynicism overrules everywhere. I am pretty sure that 100 per cent of the world's politicians know exactly what's happened there. When I say cynical, I mean that for selfish or other reasons they don't do anything to help at least those innocent civilians. Yet how come they suddenly decide they have to intervene again in Iraq?"

Do you want to go back? "No, I don't. It's not my city any more. How can I trust anyone any more?"

Do you have no feeling of guilt that you are here, safe? "I don't feel guilt because here I can disseminate the truth, talk to ordinary people. Anyway, we had to leave. They would have killed us."

Is there nothing for you to go back to even if peace is

restored? "For me not - apart from my family and friends. The exist any more. They have destroyed everything - even our woods where we loved to go mushrooming. They have destroyed even our woods, our beautiful mountains."

Majo spoke. "It's not Sarajevo any more." You have no country left to love?

"You have answered it."

Majo said: "This is what I Croats.' It's their distorted ex-Communist clique. told by my mother that her A few unpalatable facts



UNTIL Tuesday, there was not a lot I knew about the European single market. Without exaggeration, the quantity or mass of what I did not know about the European single market was in danger of collapsing, under its own gravity, into a black hole, to go with all the other

covering. On Tuesday, however, there was an FT survey - The European Single Mar-ket - which set everything to rights. Wittily and authoritatively, it plugged the black hole of my ignorance with analysis, graphs and matter. One of the articles I enjoyed was a piece by David Marsh that sought to dispel anxieties

black holes that astronomers are dis-

about life in the new Europe. It was couched in the form of 'assertions' and 'facts.' For example: "ASSER-TION: A Commission directive will oblige fishermen to wear hairnets aboard their boats. FACT: Untrue." The writer (he happens to be a twin: a fact resonant with disconnectedness) then explained why this was untrue. All that is wanted is strict hygiene conditions at fish-processing plants, including the wearing of head-covers. Similarly, he gave the lie to the assertion that EC

Michael Thompson-Noel

regulations require Christmas trees to sport regularly-spaced needles, or that the EC wants to outlaw the dye that gives smoked haddock its "distinctive golden hue."

All extremely jolly. Not to be outgunned, I decided to employ the astounding resources available to this column in such a way as to put the Marsh formula of assertion and count-

er-fact to global and cosmological use: ASSERTION: Readiness by the world's central banks, which hold 35,000 tonnes of gold. to sell some of this metal. is a bleak pointer for the

around \$330 an ounce. FACT: Untrue. Two months ago I sold £3,250 worth of gold shares. This important market indicator should loom as large on all graphs as Pheidias's chryselephantine statue of Zeus loomed at Olympia, before its removal to Constantinople, for it signals an imminent recovery in the gold price, perhaps of some magnitude.

ASSERTION: Italy's crack-down on the Mafia, plus efforts by the Rome government to control the budget deficit, overhaul the economy, eliminate corruption and initiate constitutional reform, mean that prospects are looking rosy for Europe's most stupid country.

FACT: Untrue. Italy cannot be sal-Book your holiday now, before it disintegrates entirely. ASSERTION: The

French are becoming

less selfish and more

ASSERTION: The

FACT: Untrue.

X HANDSAWS

arts are not in terminal FACT: Untrue. The gold price, currently rolling drunkenly at arts are all washed up. Good music ended with Rahkmaninov. Picasso had his moments, but no one will ever paint a better picture than Botticelli's Primavera. Literature and architecture are sculling round in circles. From now on,

the only worthwhile art will be that produced by computers. ASSERTION: The eclipse of Soviet communism heralded the end of totali-

FACT: Untrue. With world population growth spiralling out of control, nations

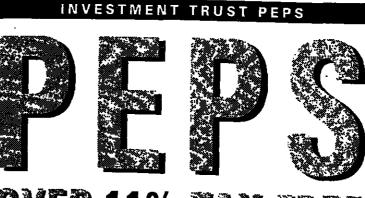
will indeed coalesce into Orwell's Eurasia, Eastasia and Oceania, with the apparatus of government in each of these blocs shared between the four great ministries of Nineteen Eighty-Four, Minitrue, Minipax, Miniluv and Miniplenty.

ASSERTION: Nasa's Seti programme

 its Search for Extraterrestrial Intelli-gence – is proving a damp and costly squib. No alien radio transmissions have been detected and none can be expected, because Man is alone in the universe.

FACT: Untrue. Nasa has eavesdropped on thousands of alien conversations since Seti's launch last October, but is too terrified to admit it. The reason for Nasa's dread is its discovery that Earth is regarded as the pariah of the galaxy. Reason: Earth is the only planet in the Milky Way on which a warring, cannibalistic, drug-crazed, pig-ignorant and irredeemably criminal species devoted to xenophobic mass killing and the destruction of its own environment has ever reached the summit of the food chain. Anxious to help out, a group of alien civilisations has attempted to provide Earth with better leaders. John Major is a robot. But there are problems with his circuitry. Some of his wires are crossed. These civilisations have fonder hopes of the model installed in the

UN flag?.



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